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WINTER MOVIE GUIDE

'Tis the season for blockbusters, Oscar contenders and family flicks What to see and what to skip {pages 09-10}

THE FINAL 'SIMPSONS' EPISODE HAS BEEN WRITTEN!
TELEVISION {page 20}

A NEW MAY-DECEMBER ROMANCE THAT WE CAN GET BEHIND?
FILMS {pages 14-15}

WE STILL GET A KICK OUT OF THE ROCKETTES
THEATER {page 22}

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Worcester firefighter killed in collapse

Just days after Worcester marked the 12-year anniversary of the deaths of six firefighters who died battling a warehouse blaze, the city now has another firefighter to mourn.

Firefighter John Davies, a 17-year veteran, died battling a fire in three-story home early Thursday. Davies, 43, a father of three, and firefighter Brain Carroll rushed into the home after they were told a resident was still unaccounted for.

The three-alarm fire caused part of the building to collapse as the firefighters were inside.

Carroll was injured, but is expected to survive.

"The firefighters of Worcester are no strangers to tragedy. And … unfortunately, the dangerous calling these firefighters took the oath to do has left us devastated once again," said Ed Kelly, president of Professional Firefighters of Massachusetts.

▶ Davies

Fire officials said it was unclear what caused the fire, but that it appears to have started in the rear of the building.

The unaccounted for resident was still missing as of press time. METRO/BOSTON.COM

City says bye-bye to tents at Occupy

After midnight eviction notice, city and protesters ready to clear camp
Protesters put goods in safe keeping
Occupiers ready for 'next phase'

After two months of marches through the city streets accompanied by chants that echoed off the walls of buildings in the Financial District, Boston officials decided it was time for campers living in tents at Dewey Square to uproot and leave.

But they didn't exit without a dance.

By 10 p.m. Thursday evening, hours after Mayor Thomas Menino handed down an edict telling occupiers to vacate the space by midnight, hundreds of supporters of Occupy Boston gathered on the lawn.

"You can't evict ideas and you can't evict our spirits," said Siham Jihad. "You can evict us all you want … but we will rise from the rubble and we will be stronger and we will be wiser."

Occupiers stood prepared for police to take action and possibly arrest any protesters that disobeyed city orders to clear out.

Despite warnings, the group planned a massive dance party celebration to kick off their final evening on the occupied lawn and established posteviction preparations.

"This is just the beginning of occupy bringing light to issues," said Ariel Oshinsky. "We won't be silenced."

Earlier Thursday, when occupiers heard about Menino's eviction notice, steps to deploy from Tent City began immediately.

Books from the library went into boxes and crates, volunteers started taking down the food tent, and protesters packed supplies into U-Haul trucks for safe keeping.

While some worked with local social service providers to secure shelter for homeless members, others talked about their two-month experience.

"Just because they told us to leave Dewey Square, doesn't mean we were told to stop fighting," said Alex Ingram to a handful of protesters that gathered for a minimeeting Thursday afternoon. "Never stop fighting and never give up. I love you all."

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Occupy Boston participants pack up their belongings after Boston Mayor Thomas Menino gave members of Occupy Boston until midnight on Thursday to vacate Dewey Square.

STEVE ANNEAR
steve.annear@metro.us

In the news

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An unofficial scenario of what the T fare could cost in the future for a CharliePass. Before any decisions are made, however, MTBA officials will host months of public meetings with rider input and examine "a basket of options."

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▶ Abraira

New chief sworn in

BOSTON. The city's first Hispanic fire chief was sworn in Thursday.

Steve Abraira was most recently fire chief in Palm Bay, Fla.

A swearing-in ceremony was held at a fire house in Dorchester.

Abraira replaced Ronald Keating who reached the mandatory retirement age earlier this year.

METRO

This candy man can't

BOSTON. A Boston man's sweet tooth landed him in some trouble.

Officers found Carlos Reyes, 39, pushing a cart filled with $1,000 worth of Twizzlers, Mentos and Trident gum down a Roxbury street about 3:30 a.m. Wednesday.

Police learned that a cart full of candy had gone missing from the South Bay Stop & Shop. METRO

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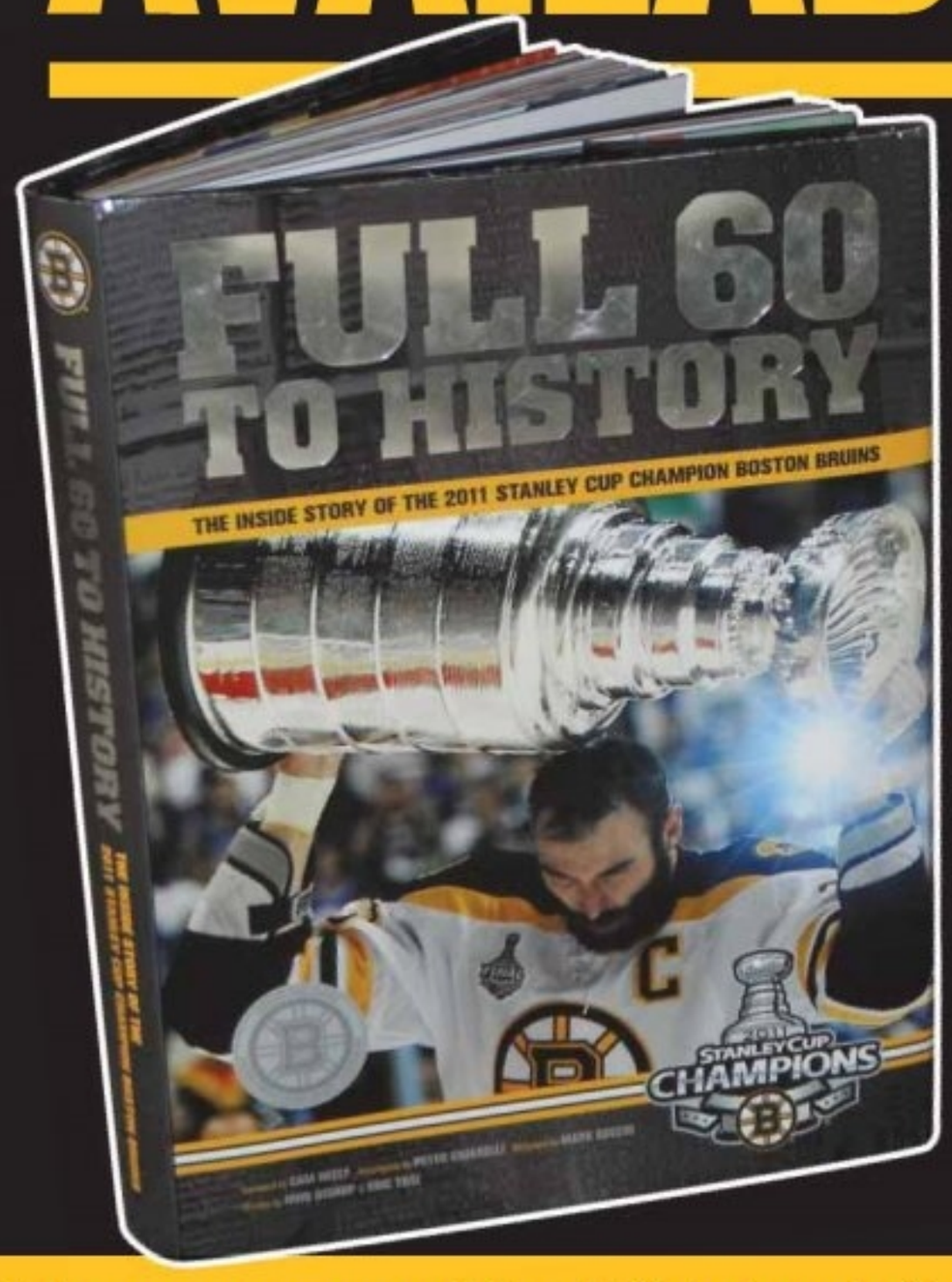

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Fenway has centennial celebration plans on tap

▶ Fenway Park turns 100 next year ▶ Red Sox are planning 'major, big time' celebration ▶ Free open house, charity effort are among the events

It almost didn't live to see its 100th birthday.

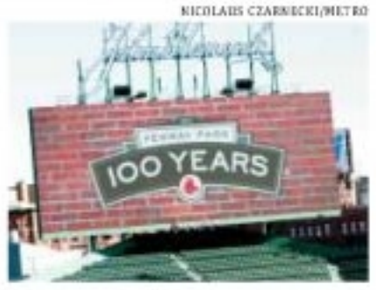
But despite two massive fires, decades of harsh New England winters and even plans to vacate it for a new, modern stadium, Fenway Park has stood strong.

It's a rare feat in sports for a venue to last 100 years and enable later generations of fans to actually live the stories that their grandparents told them of their time watching the hometown team.

That's why officials have planned a "major, big time" celebration to mark Fenway Park's centennial.

"This place deserves to be celebrated and celebrated in a major way," said team President Larry Lucchino. "History and tradition seeps through its every pore."

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO



"For a hundred years she's stood here / Heard cheering, seen our tears / Through all the good times and the bad / Fenway perseveres."

DICK FLAVIN, A PLAYWRIGHT AND RED SOX POET LAUREATE, RECITED A POEM HE WROTE CALLED "LONG LIVE FENWAY PARK."

On Thursday, past legends and presents players, along with Red Sox and city officials announced plans to celebrate the oldest ballpark in the major leagues.

"Fenway Park is more than a ballpark," Mayor Thomas Menino said. "It's a sports monument."

When asked if he ever thought Fenway could last 100 years, former player Johnny Pesky, 92, didn't hesitate.

"Oh yeah," he said.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
michael.naughton@metro.us

Celebration plan

- **The April 20 game against the New York Yankees** will start at 3 p.m., the same time the game against the then-New York Highlanders was played in 1912.
- **A free Fenway Park open house for fans** will take place April 19.
- **Charities in all six New England states** will benefit from the team's "100 acts of kindness" program.
- **100 informational plaques** will be installed throughout Fenway as part of a "living museum" theme.
- **100 anniversary patches** on player jerseys, baseballs and bases will be displayed.

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Herb Chambers It's Different Here!
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Va. Tech shaken by deadly shooting

Campus police officer shot dead Second body believed to be gunman In 2007, 32 were killed and 25 hurt in bloody rampage at same school

A gunman ambushed and killed a campus police officer and was later reported as found dead on Thursday at Virginia Tech University, the site of one of the worst shooting rampages in U.S. history.

Authorities declared the campus safe and lifted a lockdown after a nearly four-hour manhunt, lending credence to television news reports that a body found in a Virginia Tech parking lot was that of the shooter.

Police at a televised news conference declined to say whether they suspected a murder-suicide and offered no motive for the crime, citing an ongoing investigation.

"Today tragedy again struck Virginia Tech with a wanton act of violence where a police officer was murdered during a routine traffic stop," Virginia Tech president Charles Steger told reporters. "Words don't describe our feelings."

The incident evoked grim memories of April 2007 when a mentally deranged student killed 32 people and wounded 25 before committing suicide on the school's campus. It was the nation's deadliest attack by a single gunman.

In Thursday's incident, the gunman walked up and shot dead a four-year veteran of the campus police force during a routine traffic stop, police said.

The man then fled on foot toward a nearby parking lot, and a body was later found there along with a gun, police said.

Sgt. Bob Carpentieri of the Virginia State Police would not confirm that the second body was that of the unidentified gunman. **REUTERS**

Quoted

"Such violence is never easy to explain and cuts to our core — especially on a campus that has experienced such grief in the past."
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REPUBLICAN LEADER ERIC CANTOR OF VIRGINIA

JARED SOARES/GETTY IMAGES

▶ A sign reports that the Squires Student Center is on lockdown at Virginia Tech on Thursday after a shooting.

Twitter unveils its redesign

Twitter Inc., the microblogging service that lets people send 140-character messages, redesigned the site to make it faster and simpler to navigate.

The service will feature tabs at the top of the screen that let users more easily access their home pages, connect with others and discover new content, Twitter said today at an event in San Francisco. The updated site will be available to all users in the next few weeks. **BLOOMBERG**

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Where's the money? Corzine gets a grilling

Former senator and NJ governor defends himself in collapse of brokerage firm MF Global allegedly misused hundreds of millions in client funds

Former MF Global chief Jon Corzine apologized to those harmed by the brokerage firm's collapse, but said he didn't directly manage customer funds and doesn't know where the missing money is.

Corzine, in his first public appearance since the firm filed for bankruptcy on Oct. 31, told lawmakers that it is his responsibility to face their questions.

Wearing a somber dark suit and armed with an accordion file folder of documents and a highlighter pen, Corzine said his "sadness" pales in comparison to MF Global's customers, employees and investors.

"It appears to me that nobody has learned a thing from what's gone on here. Wall Street is operating as if 2008 never happened."
REP. COLLIN PETERSON

"Their plight weighs on my mind every day — every hour," Corzine, a former U.S. senator, told the House Agriculture Committee after being sworn in by committee Chairman Frank Lucas. "I simply do not know where the money is, or why the accounts have not been reconciled to date," he said.

WRITE TO METRO:
LETTERS@METRO.US

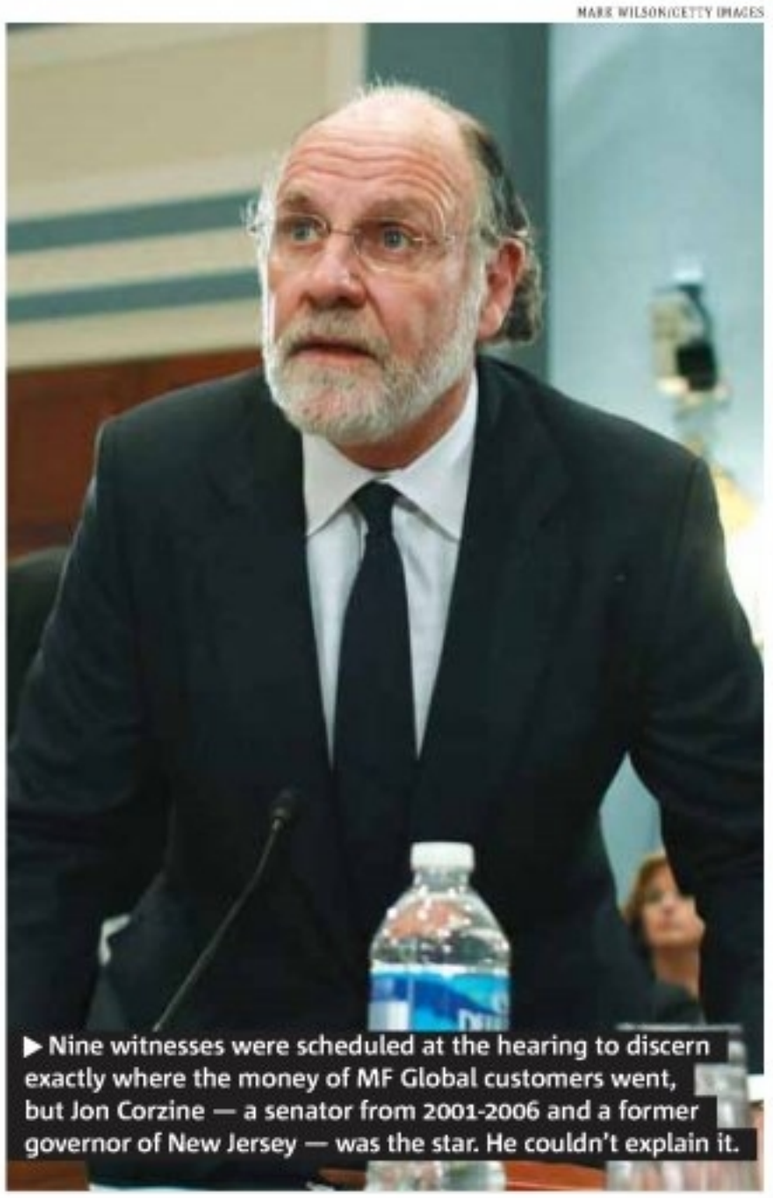
Corzine's contrite but defensive remarks are his first since he resigned from the firm in early November. Revelations of massive bets on European sovereign debt caused markets to lose confidence in the firm.

The search for hundreds of millions of dollars in missing customer funds has sent reverberations through trading floors and has attracted the attention of federal prosecutors. Thousands of customers have had their money frozen.

In separate testimony, a top executive of futures exchange operator CME Group Inc. said MF Global misused hundreds of millions of dollars of customer funds by moving the money to its own accounts, representing "serious violations of our rules and of the Commodity Exchange Act," CME Executive Chairman Terrence Duffy said.

Neither MF Global nor any of its executives has been charged with any wrongdoing. REUTERS

MARK WILSON/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Nine witnesses were scheduled at the hearing to discern exactly where the money of MF Global customers went, but Jon Corzine — a senator from 2001-2006 and a former governor of New Jersey — was the star. He couldn't explain it.

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New Amsterdam Vodka
Saturday, December 10
3-6pm
Wines from Commonwealth
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WEEKEND

WINTER MOVIE GUIDE

In December and January, movie theaters are jam-packed with Oscar contenders and crowd-pleasers Here's a look at a few of the highlights coming up in the next few weeks

Dec. 16

DANIEL SMITH

▶ Cheers to these two coming back for another mega-hit.

'Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows'

Expect lots of slow-motion bullets flying and faces reeling from serious punches to the kisser in Guy Richie's second installment of the "Sherlock" franchise. This time, Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law and Rachel McAdams return with newcomer and star of the Swedish version of the "Dragon Tattoo" series Noomi Rapace.

Dec. 16

"The Chipmunks"

'Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chip-wrecked'

They always say that you should vote with your wallet, which must be the only explanation of why another "Chipmunks" feature has been made. This time, they're on a cruise ship.

'Carnage'

Roman Polanski may be barred from visiting the U.S., but that hasn't stopped him from adapting to film the Broadway play "God of Carnage" about two sets of Brooklyn parents who meet for a civil discussion about their children's schoolyard skirmish. Limited release.

Dec. 23

COURTESY OF 20TH CENTURY FOX

▶ Matt Damon may not win over this tiger, but we're always game.

'We Bought a Zoo'

The man who brought you "Almost Famous" and "Vanilla Sky" brings another family drama which, if nothing else, we can guarantee has a kick-ass soundtrack. A recently widowed father (Matt Damon) decides to buy a dilapidated zoo in order to give his family an "American experience."

Dec. 21

'Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol'

With the IMF shut down due to a bombing at the Kremlin, Ethan Hunt (Tom Cruise) and his team must go rogue to prove their innocence. Director Brad Bird gives us the most bang we could possibly get for the buck while also shooting segments of the film in IMAX format.

'The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo'

"The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo"

Critics scoffed when they heard that there would be an American remake of the Swedish films based on Steig Larsson's best-selling trilogy. But if trailers and sneak peeks are any indication, this new effort by director David Fincher makes the case for an exciting reinvention of the mystery thriller. Trent Reznor provides the score.

'The Adventures of Tintin'

Peter Jackson and Steven Speilberg take the beloved children's adventure series to 3-D with this visually stunning adaptation of a young journalist on a mission to discover why his newly purchased ship, the Unicorn, is of particular interest to the menacing Mr. Sakharine. Suddenly, a treasure hunt is in the offing. Jamie Bell, Simon Pegg, Nick Frost and Andy Serkis star.

Dec. 25

"Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close"

'Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close'

10-year-old Oskar Schell, shaken by his father's death in the 9/11 attacks, finds a key in an old vase. Driven by his father's belief in the his own unique intellect, Oskar is inspired to search the city for the lock that matches the key. The film expands from its limited Dec. 25 opening on Jan. 20.

"The Darkest Hour"

'The Darkest Hour'

Not all aliens are creepy reptilian monsters you can shoot in the eye. In this 3-D sci-fi film, the extraterrestrial creatures are an invisible force that descend on Moscow and every major city on the planet to sap Earth of its energy sources.

HEIDI PATALANO
heidi.patalano@metro.us

Dec. 25

'War Horse'

Steven Spielberg has been very busy this year, but we have a feeling that one of the projects closest to his heart was this adaptation of a book and play about a boy and his horse who get separated after the horse, Joey, is enlisted as part of the English calvary during World War I. Once his owner also signs up for service, the bond between man and animal gets tested to the extreme.

www.metro.us

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Roger Ebert, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES
"★★★★"
"Michael Fassbender delivers **a riveting, can't-take-your-eyes-off-him performance.**"
NEW YORK POST
"Carey Mulligan and Michael Fassbender give **unusually daring, committed performances.**"
DAILY NEWS
"Michael Fassbender **mesmerizes.**"
USA TODAY
WINNER! MICHAEL FASSBENDER
NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW
WINNER! MICHAEL FASSBENDER
BEST ACTOR
BRITISH INDEPENDENT FILM AWARDS
Michael Fassbender
Carey Mulligan
SHAME
A Steve McQueen Film
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metro
50% of Metro readers regularly attend live theater.
Source: Scarborough R2 2010, Base 100K+
ADVERTISE WITH US: contact **Neil Curran** at 617-532-0100 or neil.curran@metro.us

Jan. 6

'The Devil Inside'

Shot in the documentary style of "The Blair Witch Project," this film depicts one woman's search for resolution after her mother committed three murders supposedly while being possessed by a demon. Through observing other exorcisms, the daughter — worried that she will one day become possessed herself — tries to find a reason for the senseless killings.

Jan. 13

'The Iron Lady'

We all know that there's nothing, literally nothing, that Meryl Streep can't do, including playing England's first female prime minister, Margaret Thatcher, through her controversial reign in the 1980s. Consider it this year's "The King's Speech" — with more charm and kitten heels.

'Contraband'

Like Al Pacino said in the third "Godfather" movie, "Just when I thought I was out, they pull me back in." Thus is the case with ex-thug Chris Farraday (Mark Wahlberg) who, after settling down with a wife (Kate Beckinsale) and kids, gets his tightie whities caught up in an international counterfeiting scheme.

COURTESY OF PATHE PRODUCTIONS LTD

▶ You did it again, Meryl!

'Joyful Noise'

Queen Latifah and Dolly Parton go head to head in a story about a small-town choir hoping to make the nationals. Did that just sound like an episode summary of "Glee"? Well, you wouldn't be wrong, but this one also brings Keke Palmer and Jeremy Jordan to the table.

Jan. 20

'Haywire'

Director Steven Soderbergh delivers an action film that can outpace all of his "Oceans" films with a punch that would only match Quentin Tarantino's best output. Mallory Kane (Gina Carano) is a freelance assassin who's been dispatched to do all the dirty work that even WikiLeaks won't find. But once she's become inconvenient on the paper trail, it's only her own stealthy skills that can save her from death.

'Red Tails'

During World War II, an African-American military unit undergoes Air Force training while grappling with segregation. Cuba Gooding Jr., Ne-Yo, Method Man and Terrence Howard star.

'Coriolanus'

Ralph Fiennes stars and directs this adaptation of an oft-forgotten Shakespearean play about betrayal and revenge.

COURTESY OF RELATIVITY MEDIA

▶ Gina Carano is a lethal freelance killer in "Haywire."

'Underworld Awakening'

The "Underworld" series goes 3-D as Selene (Kate Beckinsale), awakens after a 12-year coma and learns she has a daughter.

Jan. 27

'The Grey'

Liam Neeson leads a group of thugs through the Alaskan wilderness after a plane crash leaves them helpless in the dead of winter. Dude sports broken bottles on his fingers for a fist fight with a wolf. This is going to be awesome.

'One for the Money'

Katherine Heigl plays a rough-around-the-edges Jersey girl who becomes a bounty hunter after she loses her sales job at Macy's.

Yet another adventure in babysitting

JESSICA MIGLO

▶ Three innocent charges (Landry Bender, Kevin Hernandez and Max Records) get more than a story at bedtime with their new, inept sitter (Jonah Hill).

As was evidenced by the outtakes from "Superbad," Jonah Hill is a funny guy. He's great at improv and playing that obnoxious, grabby kid that you can't help loving. The only explanation for his latest film not being that funny is director David Gordon Green, who restrained Hill for the sake of playing up the schmaltzy love-fest between his character and the seemingly awful kids he's babysitting.

It's a movie that begins with Hill's character performing favors of a sexual nature for his friend-with-benefits, played by Ari Graynor. While opening with a raunchy sex scene might've worked well for "Bridesmaids," here it's kind of a letdown when the other shock value moments as are unoriginal as a car chase with drug lords and a kid who is obsessed with explosives.

The premise, the obstacles and the stock characters involved are a perfect xeroxed copy of every other movie about a person who is clueless about kids being forced to look after kids.

Add to that some bizarre racial and sexual orientation issues that come up randomly in the middle of the movie. It's a clumsy handling of something that didn't need to be in the movie in the first place. These issues are important, but what the heck are they doing in the middle of our fluffy, cheesy, been-there-done-that comedy? If you don't have time to deal with the issue appropriately, don't deal with it at all.

HEIDI PATALANO

If you go

'The Sitter'
Director: David Gordon Green
Cast: Jonah Hill, Ari Graynor, Sam Rockwell, J.B. Smoove
Rating: R **Grade:** ●●○○○

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Loews Boston Common 19
617-423-5801
At the corner of Tremont & Avery St.

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) 9:20. Digital Presentation
ARTHUR CHRISTMAS 3D (PG) 10:45, 1:20, 3:50, 6:20. RealD 3D
THE DESCENDANTS (R) Fri and Sat 10:05, 11:15, 12:45, 1:55, 3:25, 4:35, 6:05, 7:20, 8:50, 10:05, 11:35.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:05-11:15-12:45-1:55-3:25-4:35-6:05-7:20-8:50-10:10.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) Fri and Sat 7:50, 10:20. Digital Presentation; Sun 7:50-10:20. Digital Presentation
HAPPY FEET TWO: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE (PG) 12:00, 2:25, 5:00. IMAX 3D
HUGO (PG) 9:00. Digital Presentation
HUGO 3D (PG) 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:25. RealD 3D
IMMORTALS 3D (R) Fri and Sat 10:25, 1:05, 3:45, 6:30, 9:05, 11:40. RealD 3D; Sun 10:25-1:05-3:45-6:30-9:05. RealD 3D
J. EDGAR (R) Fri and Sat 2:05, 5:05, 8:10, 11:10. Digital Presentation; Sun 2:05-5:05-8:10. Digital Presentation
JACK AND JILL (PG) Fri and Sat 11:35, 1:50, 4:40, 7:10, 9:25, 11:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:35-1:50-4:40-7:10-9:25. Digital Presentation
LIKE CRAZY (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:10, 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:25, 9:50, 12:10.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:10-12:25-2:40-4:55-7:25-9:50.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri 10:00, 12:40, 3:15, 4:15, 6:00, 7:05, 8:40, 9:40, 11:15, 12:15. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:00-12:40-1:40-3:15-4:15-6:00-7:05-8:40-9:40-11:15-12:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:00-11:00-12:40-1:40-3:15-4:15-6:00-7:05-8:40-9:40. Digital Presentation
MY WEEK WITH MARILYN (R) 10:10, 12:30, 2:55, 5:30, 8:20, 10:45.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13) Fri 10:15, 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:10, 6:45, 7:45, 9:30, 10:30. Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 10:15-11:10-1:00-2:00-4:00-5:10-6:45-7:45-9:30-10:30. Digital Presentation
PUSS IN BOOTS (PG) 10:55. Digital Presentation
THE SITTER (R) Fri 10:00, 11:05, 12:15, 1:15, 2:30, 3:30, 4:45, 5:45, 7:00, 8:00, 9:15, 10:15, 11:20, 12:20. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:00-11:05-12:15-1:15-2:30-3:30-4:45-5:45-7:00-8:00-9:15-10:15-12:20. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:00-11:05-12:15-1:15-2:30-3:30-4:45-5:45-7:00-8:00-9:15-10:15. Digital Presentation
TOWER HEIST (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:20, 12:55, 3:40, 6:25, 11:50. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:20-12:55-3:40-6:25. Digital Presentation
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:05, 11:20, 12:50, 2:10, 3:35, 4:50, 6:35, 7:35, 10:35, 12:00. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:05-11:20-12:50-2:10-3:35-4:50-6:35-7:35-10:35. Digital Presentation
A VERY HAROLD & KUMAR 3D CHRISTMAS (R) Fri and Sat 9:10, 11:30. RealD 3D; Sun 9:10. RealD 3D

REGAL CINEMAS

Fenway 13 & RPX
617-424-6266
201 Brookline Ave.

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) 1:25, 6:45
ARTHUR CHRISTMAS 3D (PG) 4:00, 9:50. RealD 3D
THE DESCENDANTS (R) Fri 12:50, 6:55. OC-Open Caption; Fri 3:50-9:55-12:40.; Sat 3:50-9:55. OC-Open Caption; Sat 12:50-6:55-12:40.; Sun 12:50-9:55. OC-Open Caption; Sun 3:50-6:55.
HUGO (PG) 12:35
HUGO 3D (PG) 1:05, 4:15, 7:25, 10:35. RealD 3D
IMMORTALS (R) Fri 4:25; Sun 4:25.
IMMORTALS 3D (R) Fri 1:15, 7:15, 10:05, 12:35. RealD 3D; Sat 7:15-10:05-12:35. RealD 3D; Sun 1:15-7:15-10:05. RealD 3D
J. EDGAR (R) 3:45, 10:25
THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: FAUST LIVE (NR) Sat 12:55
THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri and Sat 12:55, 3:35, 6:40, 9:40, 12:25; Sun 12:55-3:35-6:40-9:40.
NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 3:30, 4:30, 7:00, 7:20, 7:40, 10:00, 10:40, 12:35; Sun 12:30-1:00-1:30-3:30-4:30-7:00-7:20-7:40-10:00-10:40.
THE SITTER (R) Fri and Sat 12:40, 3:40, 7:10, 10:10, 12:25. RPX; 1:10-4:10-7:30-7:50-10:50.; Sun 12:40-3:40-7:10-10:10. RPX
TOWER HEIST (PG-13) Fri and Sat 4:20, 10:20, 12:20; Sun 4:20-10:20.
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) 12:45, 3:55, 7:05, 10:15
A VERY HAROLD & KUMAR 3D CHRISTMAS (R) Fri 1:20, 4:05, 6:50, 9:45, 12:10; Sat 6:50-9:45-12:10.; Sun 1:20-4:05-6:50-9:45.

the COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE

Coolidge Corner Theatre
617-734-2500
290 Harvard St., Brookline

THE DESCENDANTS (R) Fri 11:00, 1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; Sat 11:15-1:40-4:15-7:00-9:45.; Sun 1:40-4:15-7:00-9:45.
FROM THE BACK OF THE ROOM (NR) Fri 9:40, 12:00; Sat and Sun 9:40.
KIDS' SHOW: VANESSA TRIEN & THE JUMPING MONKEYS (NR) Sun 10:30
MACBETH LIVE FROM THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE (2011) (NR) Sat 10:00
MELANCHOLIA (R) Fri 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50; Sat and Sun 4:00-7:00-9:50.
MY WEEK WITH MARILYN (R) Fri 12:00, 2:20, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00; Sat and Sun 2:20-4:45-7:30-10:00.
THE ROOM (R) Sat 12:00
TOMBOY (NR) Fri and Sat 11:50, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10; Sun 11:50-2:20-7:40.
THE WOLF MAN (NR) Fri and Sat 12:00
YOUNG GOETHE IN LOVE (NR) Sun 11:00. Goethe Institut German Film Series; Sun 11:00.

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Braintree 10
888-AMC-4FUN
Route 93 off of Exit 6

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) Fri and Sat 12:45, 5:40, 10:35. Digital Presentation; Sun 12:45-5:40. Digital Presentation
ARTHUR CHRISTMAS 3D (PG) 10:15, 3:10, 8:05. RealD 3D
HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) 10:15, 3:10, 8:05. Digital Presentation
HAPPY FEET TWO IN 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 12:40, 5:35, 10:30. RealD 3D; Sun 12:40-5:35. RealD 3D
HUGO (PG) 3:30. Digital Presentation
HUGO 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 10:30, 1:35, 4:30, 7:25, 10:20. RealD 3D; Sun 10:30-1:35-4:30-7:25. RealD 3D
IMMORTALS (R) Fri 3:20, 9:15. Digital Presentation; Sat 6:30-9:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 12:30-3:20. Digital Presentation
JACK AND JILL (PG) 10:20, 12:35, 3:00, 5:15, 7:35, 9:50. Digital Presentation
THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: FAUST LIVE (NR) Sat 12:55
THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri and Sat 11:15, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:15-2:00-4:45-7:20-9:55. Digital Presentation
NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13) Fri 11:00, 12:30, 1:55, 4:50, 6:15, 7:45, 10:40. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:00-1:55-4:50-6:30-7:45-10:40. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:00-1:55-4:50-6:15-7:45-9:15. Digital Presentation
PUSS IN BOOTS (PG) 10:45, 1:15. Digital Presentation
THE SITTER (R) Fri 10:25, 12:50, 3:15, 5:45, 7:00, 8:15, 9:30, 10:45. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:25-12:50-3:15-5:45-8:15-9:30-10:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:25-12:50-3:15-5:45-6:45-8:15-9:00. Digital Presentation
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:15, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00. Digital Presentation; Fri and Sat 10:15-1:00-4:00-7:00-10:00. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:15-1:00-4:00-7:00-9:45. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Burlington Cinema 10
888-AMC-4FUN
Across from Burlington Mall

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) 2:00, 7:20. Digital Presentation
ARTHUR CHRISTMAS 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 9:45, 12:20, 5:50, 10:55. RealD 3D; Sun 9:45-12:20-5:50. RealD 3D
THE DESCENDANTS (R) Fri and Sat 11:40, 2:20, 5:20, 8:10, 10:50.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 11:40-2:20-5:20-8:10.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) Fri 4:40, 9:55. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:20-4:40-9:55. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:20-4:40. Digital Presentation
HAPPY FEET TWO IN 3D (PG) 3:05, 8:20. RealD 3D
HUGO 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 10:20, 1:50, 5:00, 7:50, 10:50. RealD 3D; Sun 10:20-1:50-5:00-7:50. RealD 3D
J. EDGAR (R) 11:30. Digital Presentation
JACK AND JILL (PG) Fri 11:10, 1:40, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40. Digital Presentation; Sat 7:55-10:10. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:10-1:40-4:40-7:10. Digital Presentation
THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: FAUST LIVE (NR) Sat 12:55
THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri and Sat 10:00, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:00-1:00-2:30-4:00-7:00. Digital Presentation
NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:25, 1:30, 4:30, 5:30, 7:40, 8:20, 10:40, 11:00. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:25-1:30-4:30-5:30-7:40-8:20. Digital Presentation
THE SITTER (R) Fri 10:40, 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 8:00, 10:20. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:40-12:50-3:10-5:30-8:00-10:20. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:40-12:50-3:10-5:30-8:00. Digital Presentation
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:30, 1:20, 4:20, 7:30, 10:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:30-1:20-4:20-7:30. Digital Presentation

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Lowes Harvard Square 5
888-AMC-4FUN
10 Church St., Cambridge

HUGO 3D (PG) Fri 1:40, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45. RealD 3D; Sat and Sun 11:00-1:40-4:25-7:05-9:45. RealD 3D
J. EDGAR (R) Fri 2:25, 5:20, 8:15. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:25-2:25-5:20-8:15-11:10. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:25-2:25-5:20-8:15. Digital Presentation
THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri 1:35, 4:00, 6:45, 9:15. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:05-1:35-4:00-6:45-9:15-11:50. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:05-1:35-4:00-6:45-9:15. Digital Presentation
THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (R) Sat 12:30
THE SITTER (R) Fri 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:30-1:30-3:30-5:30-7:30-9:30-11:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:30-1:30-3:30-5:30-7:30-9:30. Digital Presentation
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) Fri 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:50. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:20-2:00-4:35-7:10-9:50-12:25. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:20-2:00-4:35-7:10-9:50. Digital Presentation

LANDMARK KENDALL SQUARE CINEMA
617-499-1996
1 Kendall Square, Cambridge

THE DESCENDANTS (R) Fri 1:00, 2:00, 3:45, 5:00, 6:30, 8:00, 9:15; Sat and Sun 11:00-1:00-2:00-3:45-5:00-6:30-8:00-9:15.
MELANCHOLIA (R) Fri 1:50, 4:50, 7:50; Sat and Sun 11:05-1:50-4:50-7:50.
MY WEEK WITH MARILYN (R) Fri 1:40, 4:10, 7:05, 9:40; Sat and Sun 11:15-1:40-4:10-7:05-9:40.
OUTRAGE (AUTOREIJI) (R) Fri 1:30, 4:05, 6:45, 9:20; Sat and Sun 11:00-1:30-4:05-6:45-9:20.
SHAME (NC-17) Fri 1:05, 1:45, 3:30, 4:20, 6:15, 7:00, 9:00, 9:30; Sat and Sun 11:20-1:05-1:45-3:30-4:20-6:15-7:00-9:00-9:30.
THE SKIN I LIVE IN (LA PIEL QUE HABITO) (R) Fri 1:10, 4:00, 6:40, 9:20; Sat and Sun 1:10-4:00-6:40-9:20.
TOMBOY (NR) Fri 1:15, 3:50, 7:15, 9:25; Sat and Sun 11:10-1:15-3:50-7:15-9:25.

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Chestnut Hill 5
888-AMC-4FUN
Route 9 Newton

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) Fri 4:30, 9:45. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:30-4:30-9:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 4:30. Digital Presentation
ARTHUR CHRISTMAS 3D (PG) 1:30, 6:45. RealD 3D
HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) 2:00, 7:00. Digital Presentation
HAPPY FEET TWO IN 3D (PG) Fri 4:00, 9:30. RealD 3D; Sat 11:00-4:00-9:30. RealD 3D; Sun 4:00. RealD 3D
THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:30-1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15. Digital Presentation
NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13) Fri 1:45, 4:45, 8:00, 10:45. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:45-1:45-4:45-8:00-10:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 1:45-4:45-8:00. Digital Presentation
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) Fri 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:15-2:15-5:00-7:45-10:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 2:15-5:00-7:45. Digital Presentation

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Loews Liberty Tree Mall 20
888-AMC-4FUN
Exit 24 (Endicott St.) off Rt. 128

THE DESCENDANTS (R) 11:10, 12:40, 1:55, 3:35, 4:35, 6:35, 7:20, 9:20, 10:10.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) 3:40, 6:25. Digital Presentation
HAPPY FEET TWO: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE (PG) 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:45. IMAX 3D
HUGO (PG) 10:05. Digital Presentation
HUGO 3D (PG) 12:20, 3:15, 6:20, 9:15. RealD 3D
IMMORTALS (R) 11:00, 1:35, 9:10. Digital Presentation
IMMORTALS 3D (R) Fri and Sat 5:05, 7:45. RealD 3D; Sun 5:05-7:40. RealD 3D
JACK AND JILL (PG) Fri and Sat 11:35, 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:05. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:35-2:05-4:20-6:40-9:05. Digital Presentation
LIKE CRAZY (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:30, 2:15, 4:50, 7:35, 9:55.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 11:30-2:15-4:55-7:35-9:55.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
MONEYBALL (PG-13) 12:35, 4:00, 7:05. Digital Presentation
THE MUPPETS (PG) 11:15, 12:25, 1:50, 3:20, 4:25, 6:15, 7:00, 8:50, 9:35. Digital Presentation
MY WEEK WITH MARILYN (R) 11:45, 2:20, 4:45, 7:25, 10:00.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13) 11:00, 12:00, 12:45, 1:45, 2:45, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:45, 7:30, 8:15, 9:30, 10:15, 10:55. Digital Presentation
PUSS IN BOOTS (PG) 4:10. Digital Presentation
PUSS IN BOOTS 3D (PG) 12:10, 2:40, 10:20. RealD 3D
THE SITTER (R) Fri and Sat 11:25, 12:15, 1:40, 2:30, 4:15, 5:00, 6:30, 7:15, 8:45, 9:25, 10:50. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:25-12:15-1:40-2:30-4:15-5:00-6:30-7:15-8:45-9:25. Digital Presentation
TOWER HEIST (PG-13) 11:05, 1:35, 4:05, 6:50, 9:40. Digital Presentation
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:20, 12:30, 2:05, 4:55, 6:55, 7:40, 9:50, 10:35. Digital Presentation; Sun 12:30-6:55-9:50. CC-Closed Captions;Digital Presentation; Sun 11:20-12:30-2:00-4:55-6:55-7:40-9:50-10:35. Digital Presentation

AMC ENTERTAINMENT

Framingham 16
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22 Flutie Pass

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) 11:15, 4:40, 9:50. Digital Presentation
ARTHUR CHRISTMAS 3D (PG) 2:30, 7:50. RealD 3D
THE DESCENDANTS (R) Fri and Sat 10:45, 1:35, 4:20, 6:30, 7:30, 9:20, 10:30.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 10:45-1:35-4:20-6:30-7:30-9:20-10:10.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) 2:00, 7:15. Digital Presentation
HAPPY FEET TWO IN 3D (PG) 11:40, 5:10, 10:20. RealD 3D
HUGO (PG) 11:50. Digital Presentation
HUGO 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00. RealD 3D; Sun 1:00-4:00-7:00-9:55. RealD 3D
IMMORTALS (R) 9:00. Digital Presentation
J. EDGAR (R) 3:00, 6:20, 9:35. Digital Presentation
JACK AND JILL (PG) Fri and Sat 11:30, 2:20, 4:50, 7:40, 10:10. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:30-2:20-4:50-7:40-10:15. Digital Presentation
THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: FAUST LIVE (NR) Sat 12:55
THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri and Sat 10:45, 12:30, 1:30, 3:15, 4:15, 6:10, 7:05, 9:55. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:45-12:30-1:30-3:15-4:15-6:10-7:05-10:00. Digital Presentation
MY WEEK WITH MARILYN (R) Fri and Sat 12:20, 2:50, 5:30, 8:15, 10:45.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 12:20-2:50-5:15-7:50-10:15.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:00, 12:45, 1:50, 3:45, 4:45, 6:45, 7:45, 9:45, 10:40. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:00-12:45-1:50-3:45-4:45-6:45-7:45-9:45. Digital Presentation
PUSS IN BOOTS (PG) 10:50, 1:15, 3:50. Digital Presentation
THE SITTER (R) 11:45, 2:15, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30. Digital Presentation
TOWER HEIST (PG-13) Fri 12:10, 2:45, 5:20, 8:10, 10:50. Digital Presentation; Sat 8:10-10:50. Digital Presentation; Sun 12:10-2:45-5:20-8:10. Digital Presentation
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:20, 2:10, 5:00, 8:00, 10:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:20-2:10-5:00-8:00. Digital Presentation

SHOWCASE

Showcase Cinema de Lux Patriot Place
800-315-4000
24 Patroit Place, Foxboro

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) 12:20, 2:40. DIGITAL PROJECTION
ARTHUR CHRISTMAS 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 11:40, 2:05, 4:25, 6:45, 9:10, 11:25. REAL D 3D; Sun 11:40-2:05-4:25-6:45-9:10. REAL D 3D
THE DESCENDANTS (R) 12:10, 3:10, 6:10, 9:00. DIGITAL PROJECTION;Lux Level; Fri and Sat 12:10-3:10-6:10-9:00-11:30. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 12:10-3:10-6:10-9:00. DIGITAL PROJECTION
HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) 11:30, 1:55, 4:20. DIGITAL PROJECTION
HAPPY FEET TWO IN 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 12:05, 2:35, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 12:10. REAL D 3D; Sun 12:05-2:35-4:55-7:20-9:45. REAL D 3D
HUGO (PG) 11:35, 7:45. RWC IN DIGITAL PROJECTION
HUGO 3D (PG) 12:30, 4:00, 7:05, 10:05. REAL D 3D
IMMORTALS (R) Fri and Sat 5:00, 7:30, 10:15, 12:35. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 5:00-7:30-10:15. DIGITAL PROJECTION
J. EDGAR (R) 6:55, 9:50. DIGITAL PROJECTION
JACK AND JILL (PG) Fri and Sat 11:55, 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:35, 11:40. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 11:55-2:10-4:30-6:50-9:35. DIGITAL PROJECTION
THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: FAUST LIVE (NR) Sat 12:55. LIVE IN HD; Sat 12:55. LIVE IN HD;Lux Level
THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri and Sat 11:45, 12:15, 2:15, 3:25, 4:45, 6:35, 9:20, 11:45. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 11:45-12:15-2:15-3:25-4:45-6:35-9:20. DIGITAL PROJECTION
NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13) 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:25. RWC IN DIGITAL PROJECTION; 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:25. Lux Level;RWC IN DIGITAL PROJECTION; 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:30. DIGITAL PROJECTION;Lux Level; Fri and Sat 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:30-12:00. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:30. DIGITAL PROJECTION
OLIVIA'S WINTERTIME CHEER (G) Sat and Sun 12:00
THE SITTER (R) Fri and Sat 12:25, 2:30, 4:35, 7:25, 9:55, 12:15. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 12:25-2:30-4:35-7:25-9:55. DIGITAL PROJECTION
TOWER HEIST (PG-13) Fri and Sat 7:15, 9:40, 11:50. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 7:15-9:40. DIGITAL PROJECTION
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) 2:25, 5:05, 10:30. RWC IN DIGITAL PROJECTION; Fri 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:00. DIGITAL PROJECTION;Lux Level; Fri 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:00-12:30. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sat 7:10-10:00-12:30. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sat 7:10-10:00. DIGITAL PROJECTION;Lux Level; Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:00. DIGITAL PROJECTION;Lux Level; Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:00. DIGITAL PROJECTION

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Rte. 213 between I-93 & I-495

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) 2:15, 7:40. Digital Presentation
ARTHUR CHRISTMAS 3D (PG) 11:15, 4:30, 9:45. RealD 3D
THE DESCENDANTS (R) Fri and Sat 11:15, 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 10:30.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 11:15-2:00-4:40-7:30-10:15.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) 11:00, 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45. Digital Presentation
HAPPY FEET TWO: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE (PG) Fri and Sat 11:45, 2:15, 5:15, 8:00, 10:30. IMAX 3D; Sun 11:45-2:15-5:15-8:00. IMAX 3D
HUGO (PG) Fri and Sat 11:00, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 11:00. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:00-2:00-5:00-8:00. Digital Presentation
HUGO 3D (PG) 11:50, 3:00, 6:15, 9:15. RealD 3D
IMMORTALS (R) 11:30, 5:00, 10:10. Digital Presentation
IMMORTALS 3D (R) 1:45, 7:15. RealD 3D
J. EDGAR (R) 11:45, 3:00, 6:30, 9:40. Digital Presentation
JACK AND JILL (PG) 11:15, 1:40, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30. Digital Presentation
LADIES VS. RICKY BAHL (NR) 11:15, 2:45, 6:30, 10:00. Digital Presentation
THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri and Sat 10:45, 11:30, 1:30, 2:15, 4:15, 5:00, 7:00, 7:45, 9:45, 10:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:45-11:30-1:30-2:15-4:15-5:00-7:00-7:45-9:45. Digital Presentation
NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:00, 12:45, 1:45, 3:40, 4:40, 6:40, 7:40, 9:40, 10:40. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:00-12:45-1:45-3:40-4:40-6:40-7:40-9:40. Digital Presentation
PUSS IN BOOTS (PG) 11:30, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15. Digital Presentation
THE SITTER (R) 11:00, 11:45, 1:15, 2:00, 3:30, 4:15, 5:45, 7:00, 8:00, 9:15, 10:15. Digital Presentation
TOWER HEIST (PG-13) 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10. Digital Presentation
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) 11:45, 1:00, 2:45, 4:00, 6:00, 7:00, 9:00, 10:00. Digital Presentation

SOMERVILLE THEATRE

Somerville Theatre
617-625-5700
55 Davis Square

HUGO (PG) Fri 4:00, 7:15, 10:00; Sat and Sun 1:00-4:00-7:15-10:00.
J. EDGAR (R) Fri 4:15, 7:00; Sat and Sun 1:15-4:15-7:00.
THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri 4:30, 7:10, 9:30; Sat and Sun 1:10-4:30-7:10-9:30.
THE SITTER (R) Fri 5:20, 7:20, 9:40; Sat and Sun 3:15-5:20-7:20-9:40.

CAPITOL THEATRE

Capitol Theatre
781-648-4340
204 Massachusetts Avenue

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) Fri 7:30; Sat and Sun 3:00-7:30.
ARTHUR CHRISTMAS 3D (PG) Fri 5:20, 9:40; Sat 5:20-9:40.; Sun 5:20.
HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) Fri 4:00; Sat and Sun 1:40-4:00.
THE IDES OF MARCH (R) 7:15, 9:45
MONEYBALL (PG-13) Fri and Sat 7:20, 10:00; Sun 7:20.
NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13) Fri 5:00, 7:30, 9:55; Sat 2:15-5:00-7:30-9:55.; Sun 2:15-5:00-7:30.
PUSS IN BOOTS (PG) Fri 5:20; Sat and Sun 1:10-3:15-5:20.
TOWER HEIST (PG-13) Fri and Sat 7:40, 9:55; Sun 7:40.
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) Fri 4:45, 7:20, 9:50; Sat 2:00-4:45-7:20-9:50.; Sun 2:00-4:45-7:20.

SHOWCASE

Showcase Cinema de Lux Revere
800-315-4000
565 Squire Road

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) Fri and Sat 12:15, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 10:00, 12:20. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 12:15-2:45-5:05-7:25-10:00. DIGITAL PROJECTION
ARTHUR CHRISTMAS 3D (PG) 11:45, 2:15, 4:35. REAL D 3D
THE DESCENDANTS (R) Fri and Sat 1:20, 3:50, 6:40, 9:10, 11:45. RWC/DVS IN DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 1:20-3:50-6:40-9:10. RWC/DVS IN DIGITAL PROJECTION
THE GREATEST MIRACLE 3D (EL GRAN MILAGRO 3D) (PG) 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:05, 8:00. REAL D 3D
HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) 11:50, 2:20, 4:40, 8:05. DIGITAL PROJECTION
HAPPY FEET TWO IN 3D (PG) 11:20, 1:50, 4:10, 7:35, 10:30. REAL D 3D
HUGO (PG) 11:30, 3:20, 7:05, 10:40. DIGITAL PROJECTION
HUGO 3D (PG) 11:00, 2:50, 6:35, 10:10. REAL D 3D
IMMORTALS (R) Fri 1:40, 4:30. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 1:40-4:30. DIGITAL PROJECTION
IMMORTALS 3D (R) Fri and Sat 6:55, 9:40, 12:40. REAL D 3D; Sun 6:55-9:40. REAL D 3D
J. EDGAR (R) Fri and Sat 6:25, 9:25, 12:20. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 6:25-9:25. DIGITAL PROJECTION
JACK AND JILL (PG) Fri and Sat 7:10, 9:50, 12:25. DIGITAL DIRECTOR'S HALL; Fri 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:20. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sat and Sun 2:40-5:10-7:40-10:20. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 7:10-9:50. DIGITAL DIRECTOR'S HALL
THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: FAUST LIVE (NR) Sat 12:55. LIVE IN HD
THE MUPPETS (PG) Fri and Sat 11:25, 11:55, 2:05, 2:35, 4:45, 5:15, 7:15, 7:45, 9:55, 10:25, 12:35. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 11:25-11:55-2:05-2:35-4:45-5:15-7:15-7:45-9:55-10:25. DIGITAL PROJECTION
NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:50, 3:30, 7:00, 10:05, 12:45. RWC IN DIGITAL PROJECTION; Fri and Sat 12:20-3:00-6:30-9:35-12:15. DIGITAL DIRECTOR'S HALL; Sun 12:20-3:00-6:30-9:35. DIGITAL DIRECTOR'S HALL; Sun 12:50-3:30-7:00-10:05. RWC IN DIGITAL PROJECTION
OLIVIA'S WINTERTIME CHEER (G) Sat and Sun 12:00
PUSS IN BOOTS (PG) 11:05, 1:30, 3:55. DIGITAL PROJECTION
THE SITTER (R) Fri and Sat 12:05, 2:25, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 12:10. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Fri and Sat 11:35-1:55-4:25-6:50-9:15-11:40. DIGITAL DIRECTOR'S HALL; Sun 12:05-2:25-4:55-7:20-9:45. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 11:35-1:55-4:25-6:50-9:15. DIGITAL DIRECTOR'S HALL
TOWER HEIST (PG-13) Fri 12:55, 3:40, 6:20, 9:05, 11:35. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sat 9:05-11:35. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 12:55-3:40-6:20-9:05. DIGITAL PROJECTION
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:40, 3:35, 6:15, 9:00, 12:00. DIGITAL DIRECTOR'S HALL; Fri and Sat 1:10-4:05-6:45-9:30-12:30. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 1:10-4:05-6:45-9:30. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 12:40-3:35-6:15-9:00. DIGITAL DIRECTOR'S HALL
A VERY HAROLD & KUMAR CHRISTMAS (R) Fri and Sat 10:35, 12:50. DIGITAL PROJECTION; Sun 10:35. DIGITAL PROJECTION

LANDMARK EMBASSY CINEMA
781-893-2500
16 Pine St., Waltham

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS (PG) Fri 1:15, 4:10, 6:50, 9:20; Sat and Sun 1:15-4:10-6:50-9:20.
MONEYBALL (PG-13) 1:00, 6:20
MY WEEK WITH MARILYN (R) Fri 1:20, 4:20, 7:00, 9:25; Sat and Sun 1:20-4:20-7:00-9:25.
NEW YEAR'S EVE (PG-13) Fri 1:05, 3:50, 6:30, 9:05; Sat and Sun 1:05-3:50-6:30-9:05.
THE SITTER (R) Fri 1:25, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30; Sat and Sun 1:25-4:30-7:10-9:30.
TOWER HEIST (PG-13) Fri 4:00, 9:15; Sat and Sun 4:00-9:15.
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN - PART 1 (PG-13) Fri 1:10, 3:40, 6:40, 9:10; Sat and Sun 1:10-3:40-6:40-9:10.

Fassbender's own 'Shame'

Watching himself have sex onscreen isn't the most comfortable thing in the world, but Hollywood's rising star, Michael Fassbender, is willing to suffer for his art

ABBOT GENSER

▶ Michael Fassbender's Brandon doesn't enjoy most of the sex he's having in "Shame."

Michael Fassbender has been talking about sex all day long. He's looking a bit weary as he hunches over, elbows on his knees, trying to explain how he managed to simulate so many torrid scenes for his NC-17 film "Shame" — about a sex addict living in New York City. In between explaining to us what "Fancy a root?" means in Australia (sex) and his ideal choice for an Oscar host (Tina Fey), the 34-year-old German-born Irishman opened up about shooting so much full-frontal nudity. He didn't mind that part,

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FOR THE COMPLETE PROFILE

but watching those scenes is another story.

"It's odd. The faces that one pulls in these encounters — I wanted it to be very honest without any filtering or anything," Fassbender says with a slightly embarrassed grin. "So it's kind of full-on seeing yourself. It's kind of like listening to your answering machine back on your phone system. That's bad enough, so imagine yourself naked."

Fassbender is having a particularly sexy year, given that he's also starring in "A Dangerous Method" as psychotherapist Carl Jung, whose methods of treatment for a young woman become, ahem, carnal. We wondered what Jung might've had to say to Fassbender's "Shame" persona, Brandon.

"I think he'd first of all tell him that it's all right," he says. "To be a little bit kinder to himself. ... Then he'd probably say, 'Go see my friend Ziggy Freud.'"

Working with Steve McQueen

This is Fassbender's second collaboration with artist-turned-director Steve McQueen, with whom he made "Hunger," about Irish poet and hunger striker Bobby Sands. With the two already set to make another feature together, "Twelve Years, a Slave," Fassbender explained what has made their partnership so unique.

"It's just one of those things. It's like chemistry," he says. "We're both very comfortable being ourselves around each other with all the ugly attributes as well as the good. We're very honest with each other and we demand the best from each other and ourselves. We're trying our best and we trust each other so if we fall, we're going to go down together and hopefully help each other back up again."

HEIDI PATALANO
heidi.patalano@metro.us

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Shawn Edwards, FOX-TV
"A MUST-SEE FOR THE HOLIDAYS."
Maurie Sherman, ROGERS RADIO KiSS 92.5
"'NEW YEAR'S EVE' HAS IT ALL!"
Jim Ferguson, ABC-TV
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PRETTY WOMAN & VALENTINE'S DAY
Halle BERRY Jessica BIEL Jon BON JOVI Abigail BRESLIN Chris "Ludacris" BRIDGES Robert DE NIRO Josh DUHAMEL
Zac EFRON Hector ELIZONDO Katherine HEIGL Ashton KUTCHER Seth MEYERS Lea MICHELE
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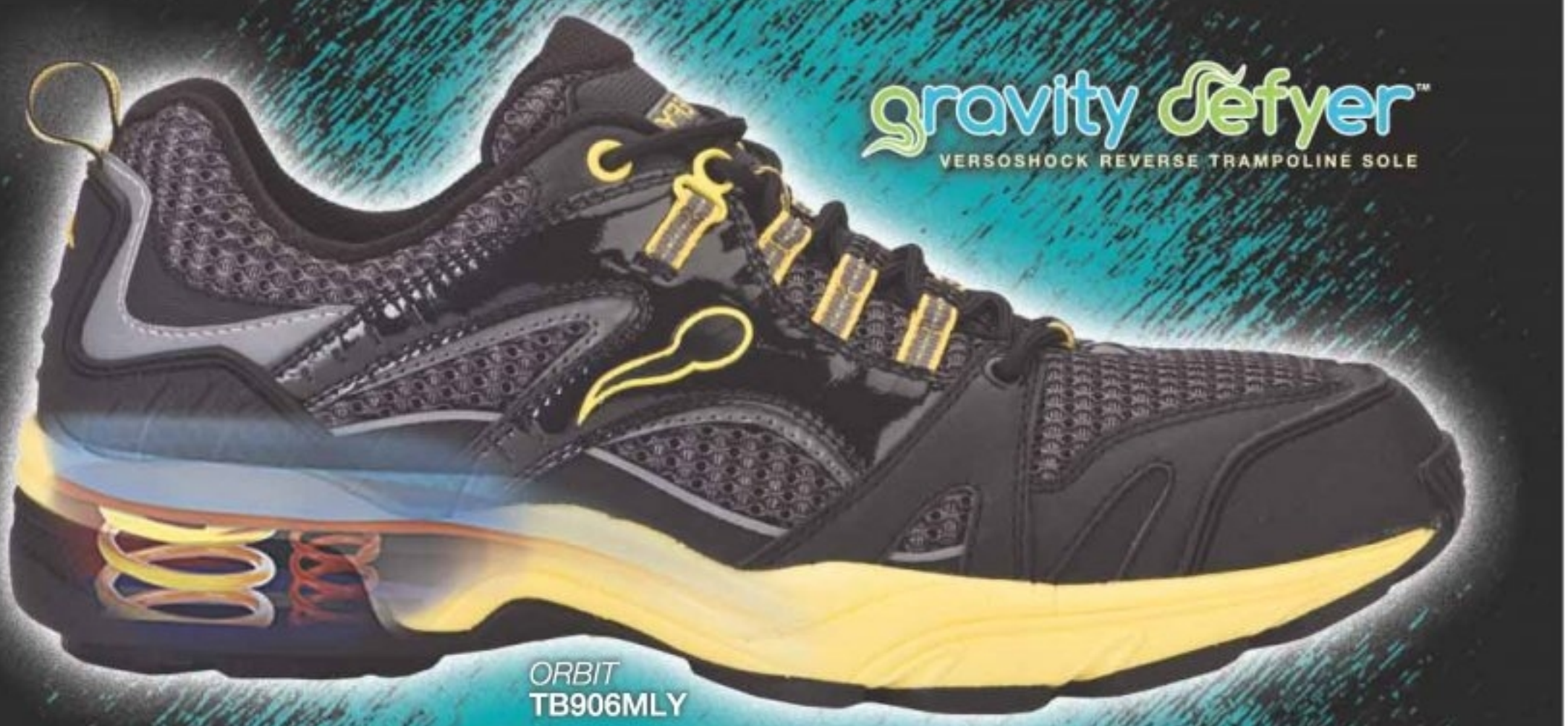

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Review

'New Year's Eve' drops the ball

As their laughable promotional posters and commercials suggest, "New Year's Eve" is a terrible, terrible movie. You would probably have more fun hanging out with a bunch of drunk yahoos at an Applebee's by yourself on the movie's namesake holiday than you would watching this film.

The inherent problem with "New Year's Eve" is why these types of ensemble flicks are popular in the first place — there are so many stars crammed into the interconnected, daft storylines that no one has any chance to develop or shine. It's borderline offensive to see such obvious talent (cast members Hilary Swank and Robert De Niro have both won Oscars — twice) spouting dialogue that is beneath a second-rate soap opera.

But that isn't going to stop you from seeing it, is it? It's totally understandable; there is comfort in all of those boldfaced names. It's not solely their fault, of course. The director and writer (Garry Marshall and Katherine Fugate, respectively, who are also responsible for last year's "Valentine's Day") as well as the cinematographer, writer, costume designer and makeup team (they somehow managed to make even Sofia Vergara look garish) also take a lot of blame. And finally, so do we, for continuing to buy tickets for this kind of cinematic slop. ● DOROTHY ROBINSON

WARNER BROS. PICTURES

▶ Regarding this plot in "New Year's Eve," the line "Ladies, may the best va-jay-jay win!" is actually recited.

If you go

'New Year's Eve'
Director: Garry Marshall
Cast: Katherine Heigl, Robert De Niro, Jon Bon Jovi, Zac Efron, Michelle Pfeiffer
Rating: PG-13
Globes: ●○○○○

Michelle and

- The 'New Year's Eve' stars share a mutual affection
- Are we the only ones who feel weird about this?

While "New Year's Eve" isn't the first time Michelle Pfeiffer and Zac Efron have crossed paths onscreen — they had a few choice scenes in 2007's "Hairspray" — it does mark an important milestone in their professional relationship, at least as far as Efron is concerned.

"I met Michelle a few years ago, during 'Hairspray,' and had a huge crush on her — always, from day one. Back then I was very, very young, and very bashful, and just around her I tended to put my foot in my mouth a lot. I didn't really know what to say to her, and everything just came out wrong," Efron remembers. "I didn't know what to do. I was very shy. But then I got to talk on the phone with her about this part, I remember. And she said, 'I think we should take this to the next level. We should really push it. Let's get a kiss in there.' And I was like, 'I'm in! I'm in this movie, sign me up. Let's do it.'"

Quoted

"I met Michelle a few years ago, during 'Hairspray,' and had a huge crush on her — always, from day one. Back then I was very, very young, and very bashful, and just around her I tended to put my foot in my mouth a lot."
EFRON, ON PFEIFFER

In the film, another romantic comedy omnibus in the style of "Valentine's Day" from director Garry Marshall (and starring everyone from Jessica Biel to Robert De Niro), Pfeiffer stars as Ingrid, a mild-mannered office drone brought out of her shell by Efron's brash bike messenger. "I'm the envy of every girl across

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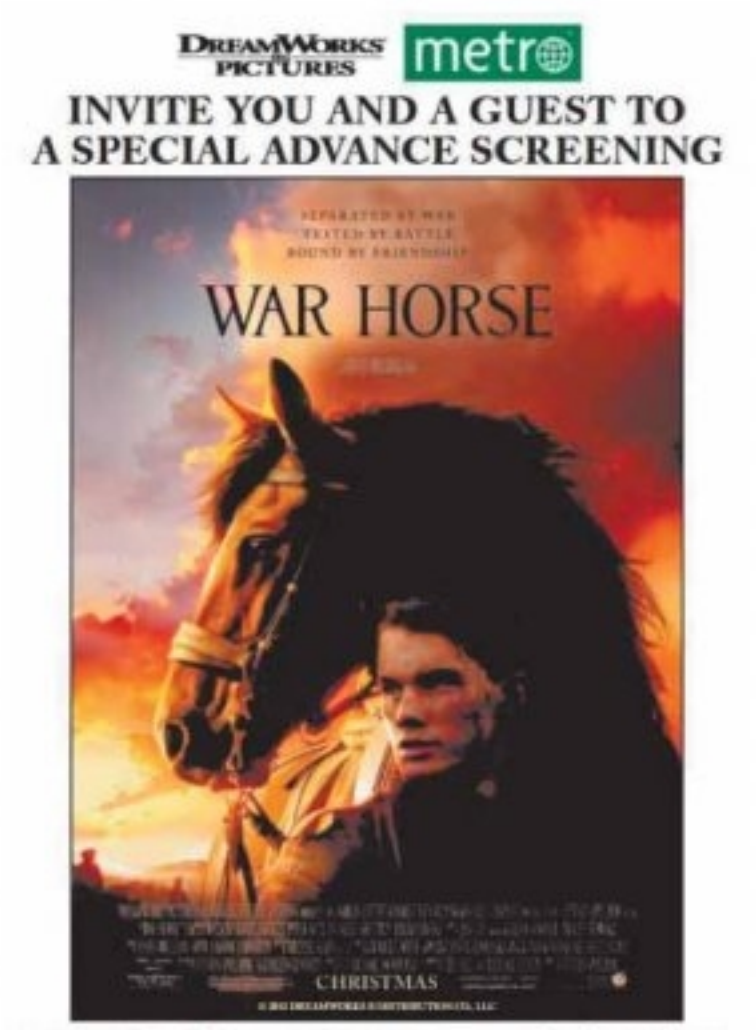
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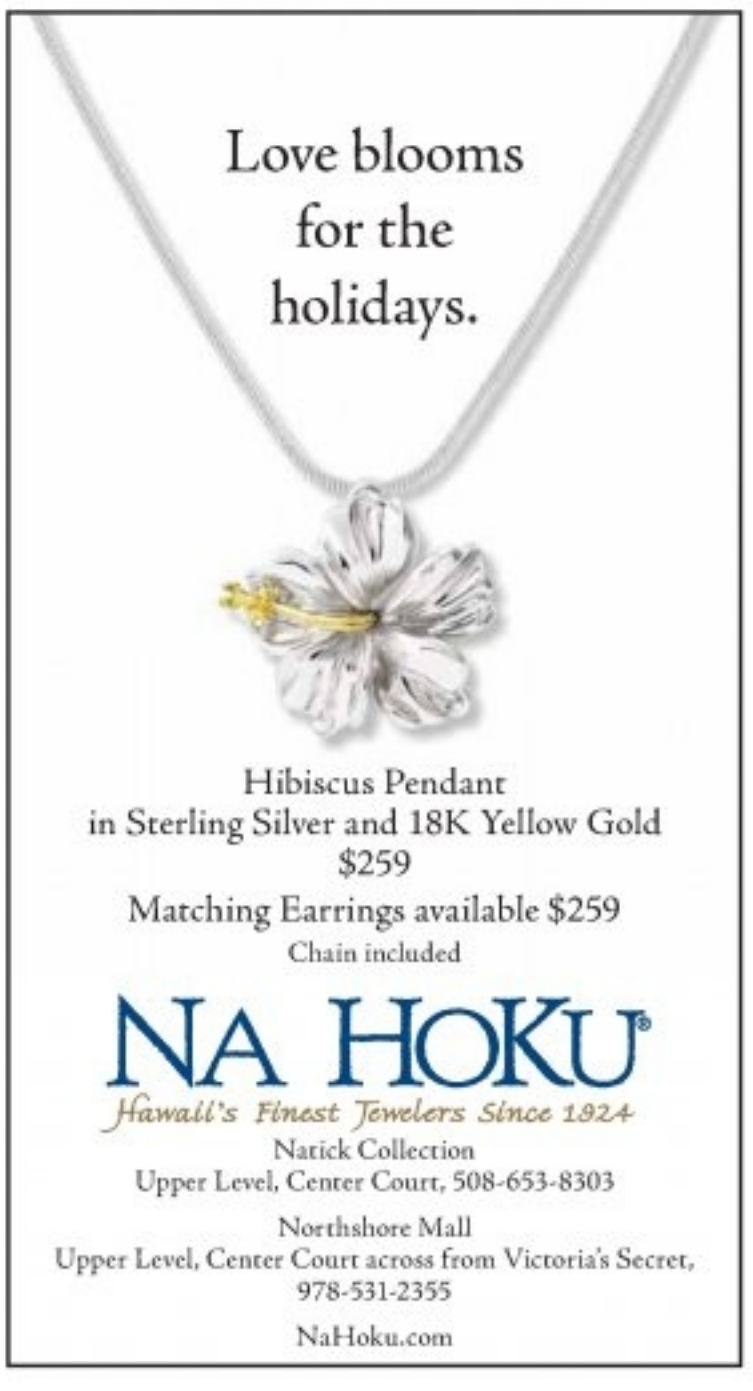

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Zac's New Year's kiss

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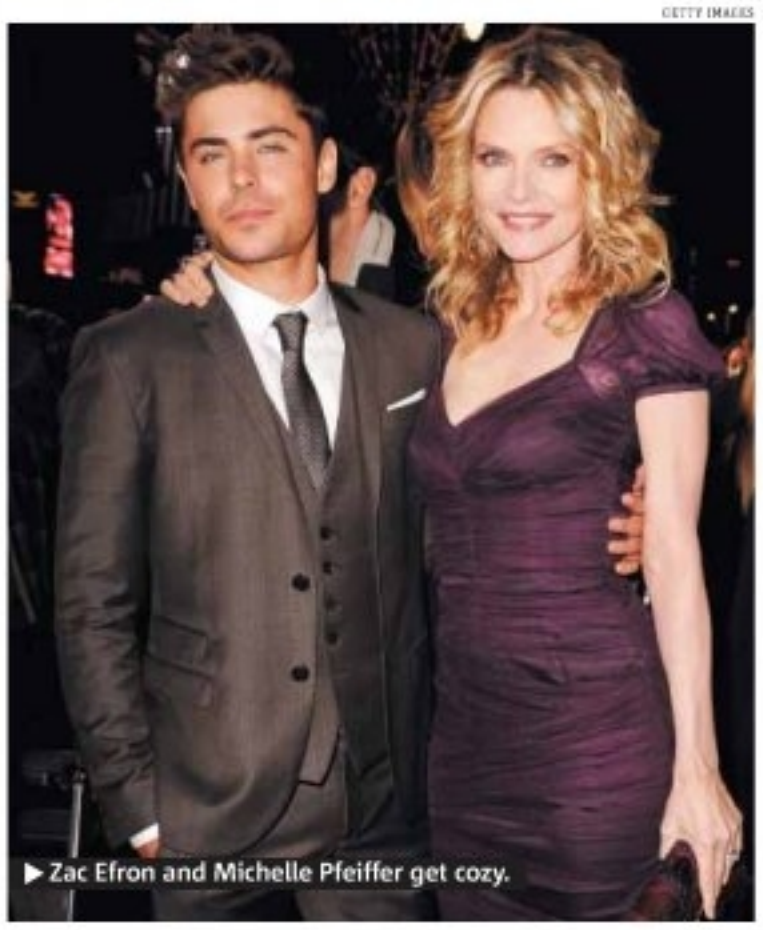

▶ Zac Efron and Michelle Pfeiffer get cozy.

the planet, I think. I got a kiss in there with Zac Efron. Pretty clever of me, at the ripe old age of 53," Pfeiffer says. "I think he was a little disappointed when he opened my trailer door and there sat Ingrid. And his little face just kind of fell, and I felt really bad. But I think probably the sweetest thing about him was he never let on — and he still won't admit — how disappointed he was. But he grew to love her anyway."

Pfieffer insists the biggest challenge of bringing their storyline to life rested on Efron's character's main mode of transportation, a moped. "Not because I actually drove it," she explains. "I think it was the elements that were a bit challenging. Weather was one. The paparazzi were out in full force — and in the scene, in the shot. And Garry was constantly talking Zac and I off a ledge."

Efron is the eternal optimist, though: "On the plus side, it was basically us snuggling very close. So it was kind of nice," he says of the frigid conditions. "I felt very comforted."

For Efron, the biggest challenge in the film arose when it came time to finally get that kiss with Pfeiffer. "I remember I was in my hotel room the night before, imagining how I was going to kiss her, and it was awesome. I was the man in every way," he says. "And then I went to execute on the day, and right when I got to the crucial moment a huge piece of confetti flew right into my mouth."

Better luck next year.

Their New Year's plans

Michelle Pfeiffer is the first to admit her end-of-the-year celebrations are usually fairly tepid affairs. "I never make it to midnight," she says. "I celebrate New Years at 9 p.m. West Coast time. I watch the ball drop in my jammies with some champagne, maybe some pie, whatever happens to be around. I stopped sort of setting those unrealistic expectations for New Year's Eve many years ago."

This year, though, will be different — if her young co-star, Zac Efron, has anything to say about it. "Yeah, but we're going to change that because you're coming out with me this year," Efron boasts, interrupting Pfeiffer. "The parties just seem to get better and better every year. We'll show you how we do it, Michelle."

Pfeiffer, blushing and dubious, acknowledges that this isn't the first she's heard of Efron's intentions. "Zac is threatening to take me out for New Year's Eve," she declares. "I'll have to run it by my husband first."

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The feed ...

On Fridays, Dorothy will post the best tweets she received during the week. You can always let her know what you think — good or bad — at @dorothyatmetro.

This week, @christys9675 wants more gossip about Paula Abdul (the "X Factor" star needs to be more drunk before that happens), @Everlong13 wants a little Word love, @v0xtheriot liked my tin foil cap last weekend (I did too!), @jmezzabarba thinks Courtney Love being Lohan's sober coach is a good idea and @xanderall was made to feel old.

▶ **@christys9675** One of my favorite sources of gossip is The Word. Please add some Paula Abdul into it, please, @dorothyatmetro?

▶ **@Everlong13** you know, I wish I was important enough to have a tweet in the metro. Or to have that check near my name. #EpicSadFace

▶ **@v0xtheriot** i lolled at your tin foil cap. Now i want to watch signs and eat hersheys kisses.

▶ **@jmezzabarba** ur article on @Courtney Love being a sobriety coach was lll informed. Reformed addicts help addicts. Duh.

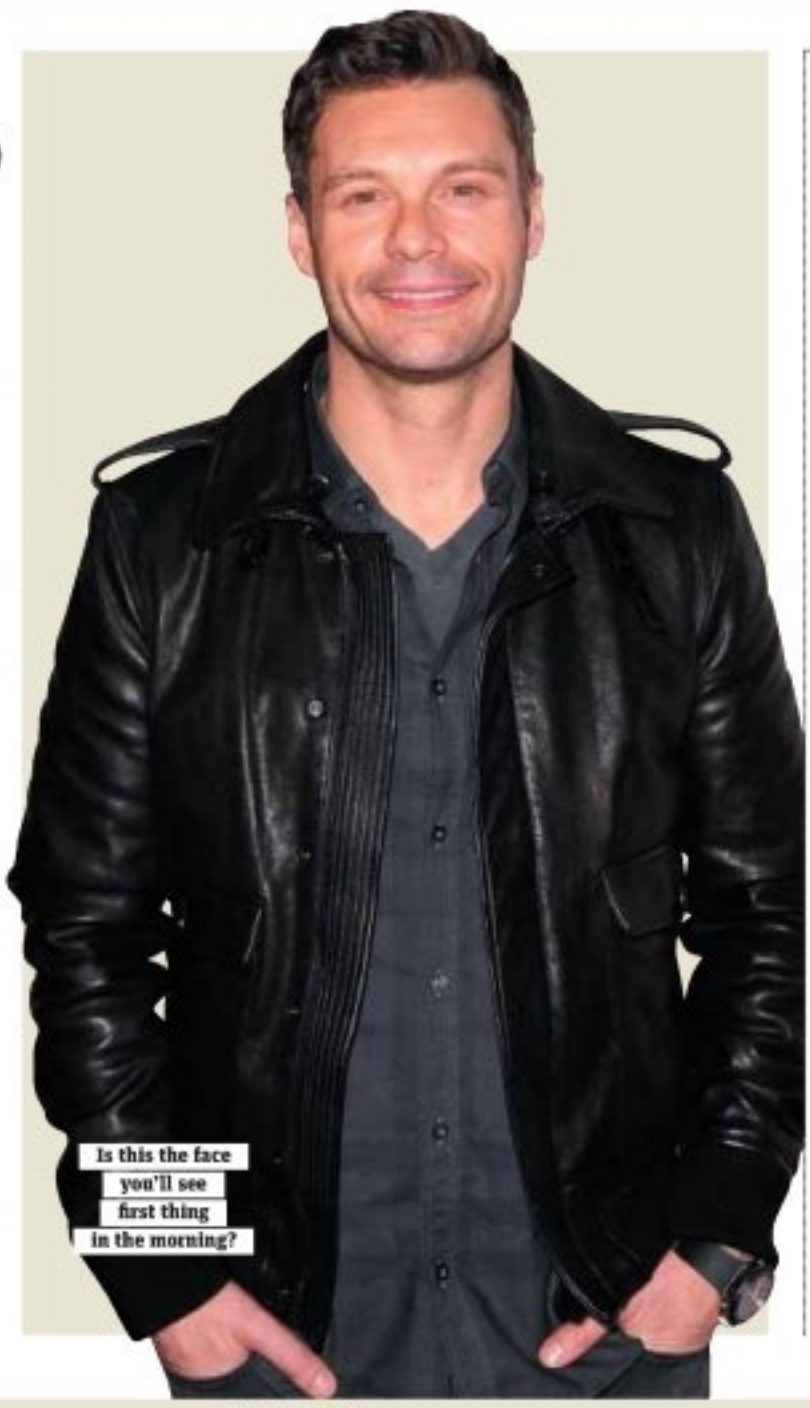
▶ **@xanderall** Thank you Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and @dorothyatmetro for making me feel ancient. :S

Abdul

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip **@dorothyatmetro** **dorothy.robinson@metro.us**

Is it 'Lauer, out!' at 'Today'?


Is this the face you'll see first thing in the morning?

Rumor has it that NBCUniversal is courting **Ryan Seacrest** to replace **Matt Lauer** on the "Today" show next year.

Although Laurer hasn't announced his retirement, he has hinted at it quite seriously, and NBC wants someone big to replace him. And it's starting to look like that someone is our generation's version of **Dick Clark**.

The Wall Street Journal announced the news of the courting on Thursday but so far NBC is keeping mum on the speculation. A "Today" spokesperson went on record about the move, saying, "there seems to be an awful lot of speculation around news anchors these days, and it's not our practice to comment on any of it. Matt Lauer has a long-term contract with NBC News and 'Today.'"

Here's the thing: Seacrest is an amazing entertainer and host and deserves all the success that comes with his self-made media empire. But does the guy have the chops to report on something as heavy as, say, 9/11? He's too tan. Too involved in the Kardashians. Too smiley.

But maybe that's me just being a Hollywood-ist. And maybe what the show needs is Seacrest interviewing a head of state and then ending it with his trademark, "Seacrest, out!" What do you think about this? Write in to let me know.

Sorry, Adele! Radcliffe is tops

Entertainment Weekly has dubbed **Daniel Radcliffe** its Entertainer of the Year. The magazine was torn between the "Harry Potter" star and singer **Adele**, but Radcliffe won out due to his success in the massive film franchise and on Broadway. "[Radcliffe is] the nicest guy with one of the brightest futures in Hollywood. There's nothing he can't do. Ultimately, there was one person who made the most sense," says editor Jess Cagle. "Despite all his wealth and fame as a teenager, he never derailed."

Talking points

Lohan's cover leaked

The cover of **Lindsay Lohan**'s issue of Playboy has leaked a week ahead of its unveiling, according to Hollyscoop. The vintage-themed cover features a naked Lohan straddling a red chair in the shape of the Playboy bunny logo that strategically blocks certain parts of her body. "The pictorial is absolutely fantastic and very tasteful, and will be accompanied by an interview that will let readers see another side of Lindsay," her rep has said of the magazine's content. Lohan is still set to appear on **Ellen DeGeneres**' show next week to officially unveil the issue and give her first interview since violating her parole.

Gomez not engaged to Bieber (phew)

Selena Gomez caused an uproar when she was spotted on vacation in Mexico with **Justin Bieber** sporting a flashy diamond ring, but her reps are quick to quash any speculation. "She is not engaged," they insist to Us Weekly. While 19-year-old Gomez and 17-year-old Bieber aren't ready to tie the knot, they are actually in Cabo San Lucas for a wedding in which Gomez is serving as a bridesmaid.

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ Gomez and Bieber

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DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

Get ready for a long divorce!

While definitely separated, **Jennifer Lopez** and **Marc Anthony** haven't actually filed for divorce yet, and sources tell Radar Online that the former couple is gearing up for a long, drawn-out settlement process. "They have been working out terms of a settlement before they officially file for divorce. There is no rush to do so because both sides agree on the formal date of separation," the source says. "Marc and Jennifer have homes, businesses, and are minority owners of the Miami Dolphins football team. It's complicated, and it could be at least several more months before final terms of the settlement are agreed upon. They will formally file in California, because it's a no fault state."

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Highlights from the year in dresses

1. In August, Beyonce arrived at the MTV Video Music Awards in a glamorous Lanvin one-shoulder wrap dress that hinted at her baby bump — before making an official announcement in the show segment later in the evening.

2. Blake Lively rocked a bright blue Emilio Pucci dress and a pair of magenta Louboutin heels at the 2011 Elle Style Awards in London, England, in February.

3. At the American Music Awards in Los Angeles in November, Katy Perry got a little political in her pink Vivienne Westwood gown, which featured the Chinese characters of "Lu Se Jing JI" (Green Economy) — a favorite slogan of the Chinese Communist Party.

4. Kate Middleton was a glorious glow of sunshine in a Jenny Packham dress as she arrived in Canada in July as part of her 2011 North American tour.

5. "Glee" starlet Lea Michele looked exactly like a seasoned showbiz veteran in her red Marchesa dress at the Emmy Awards in Los Angeles in September.

6. Who ever said one could only look fabulous in haute couture? Ginnifer Goodwin got the team from Topshop to design this breathtaking green dress, which she wore to the MET Ball in New York City in May.

7. A very pregnant Jessica Alba attended the 2011 CFDA Fashion Awards at Lincoln Center in a chic dress designed by CFDA President Diane Von Furstenberg in June.

1, 5: STEVE GRANITZ/WIREIMAGE
2: JON FURNISS/GETTY IMAGES
3: JB LACROIX/WIREIMAGE
4: SAMIR HUSSEIN/WIREIMAGE
6: LARRY BUSACCA/GETTY IMAGES
7: JAMIE MCCARTHY/WIREIMAGE

▶ Visit www.metro.us/food for more holiday treat ideas.

The perfect party platter

You don't need to slave over a stove before your next shindig Just throw together some meats and cheeses

Lately, charcuterie is the belle of the ball — or, rather, party circuit. Heather Munden, artisan winemaker at St. Francis winery, explains: "[A plate of cured meats is] so easy to put together and you can be so creative with it. It's very portable — if you take it to someone's house, it's not going to spill in the car or cab." Since Munden also cures her own meats, we got her tips on putting together the perfect spread.

Her formula

"I usually get two hard cheeses, two soft cheeses, a couple different meats and a bowl of spiced nuts. Then add olives, pickles, mustard, a baguette and an assortment of cool crackers (like flatbread crackers) to give the table a bit of texture."

The cuts

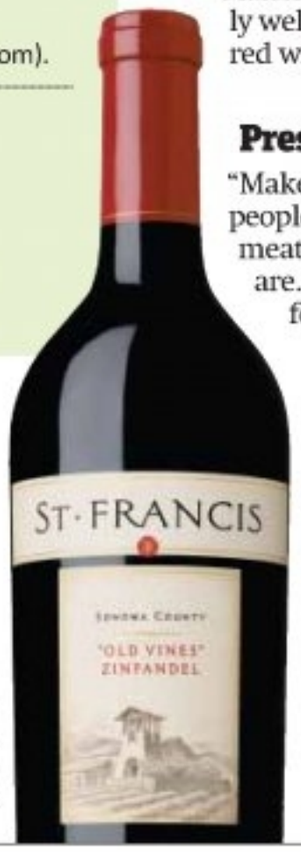
"I think three meats are great: I'll do a spicy Coppa, a dried salami — Salumeria Biellese does a great red wine and garlic salami — and a mortadella. It's a really good option that works well with red and white wine, too."

One-stop shop

For your meats and cheeses try Salumeria Biellese (www.salumeriabiellese.com) **or Igourmet** (www.igourmet.com).

Wine pairing

St. Francis Old Vines Zinfandel, $20



Don't forget the cheese

"Try to be diverse: Mix a goat, sheep and cow milk cheese. You always have to have a Brie or Camembert. Manchego works really well with white and red wine."

Presentation

"Make little signs so people know what the meats and cheeses are. For one party, I found an old chalkboard and put the cheeses right on the board and wrote what they were on there. I also write people's names on their wine glasses with Sharpies so they don't lose them. It washes off."

TINA CHADHA

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From genesis to Revelation

Black Box talk about their humble beginnings and how improvisation leads to improvement Belgian duo plans on getting physical with their next release

If all goes to plan, by the end of this month, Black Box Revelation will have a bona fide album released in America. In the meantime, the pair's "Shiver of Joy" EP is out on all formats, including limited-edition colored vinyl; just in time for them to capitalize on it during their tour with Beady Eye.

"It's cool to have our music out here in the States and in our hands. I like it when you can open it up and see what's inside. Like Christmas presents, no?" vocalist and guitarist Jan Paternoster says. "It shows that the label is enthusiastic. They had the idea to press green and yellow."

The Belgian garage rock duo's 2007 debut, "Set Your Head On Fire," fell foul to label troubles and last year's "Silver Threads" was only issued on iTunes.

"Getting your music on iTunes, it's not that hard to do," Paternoster says.

"Shiver of Joy" collects old and new songs from the forthcoming "My Perception" LP and reveals strong American roots: Ramonesy rawness, early Strokes sultriness and, on the beautiful rambling closing epic "Sealed With Thorns," a hint of artsy greats Television.

"We've been playing for five years now; we've got more experience. Because of that, we started improvising more, especially in that song. You hear it in the end. We just kept on playing and playing and didn't care how long a song is supposed to be. It was about a great moment."

LINDA LABAN
linda.laban@metro.us

CHARLIE DE KEERSMAECKER

▶ Jan Paternoster, right, and drummer Dries Van Dijck are Black Box Revelation.

If you go

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Catching a moment

Black Box Revelation spent most of 2011 recording and touring in the U.S. "We recorded the new album in Los Angeles with Alain Johannes," Paternoster says, referring to the producer. "We had a really amazing time with him, playing music and recording when we felt like it. 'Sealed With Thorns' was recorded there. For us, it's more important to catch the moment and get a good vibe in the song."

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Long live 'The Simpsons'

As the series approaches 500 episodes, creator Matt Groening says there's no real end in sight — though there was a threat of one recently

Despite a contract squabble earlier this year that might have brought an end to "The Simpsons," Matt Groening's animated comedy is still kicking — and will be indefinitely, he says. And with the show's 500th episode airing in February, it doesn't look like "The Simpsons" will give up its title of longest-running American prime-time series anytime soon. But what would an eventual end look like? Series creator Groening says he doesn't plan to be around to find out.

Do you know how the show is going to end? Do you have the last episode in mind?

I think everybody who works on the show has a secret final episode in mind. However, we inadvertently, accidentally might have already animated one we thought might be the final episode, and that is our Christmas episode coming up, which shows the Simpsons in the future. It's a very sweet and touching episode as well, and there's a great scene of adult Bart and adult Lisa together talking about their family, in the tree house. They're up in Bart's tree house, and they're drunk, which we've never been able to do.

FOX
"The Simpsons" Christmas episode airs Sunday at 8 p.m. on FOX.

You got a bit of press over contract negotiations earlier, with talk of the series ending. How did that get worked out?

This is a dilemma that most TV shows face at some point. As the years go by, people get raises. The show gets more expensive, and at a certain point, financially, a decision has to be made.

Do you have any plans for life after "The Simpsons"?

I think we're going to keel over while doing this show. We don't see any end in sight.

NED EHRBAR
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

TV watch list

'Boardwalk Empire'

DRAMA. Jimmy's looking to make things right, but with Nucky's trial looming and Margaret considering an offer from federal prosecutor Esther Randolph, there are no sure bets in Atlantic City in Sunday's season finale.

Season finale, Sunday, 9 p.m., HBO

'Boss'

DRAMA. Chicago mayor Tom Kane's (Kelsey Grammer) plan to eliminate corruption in his administration: destroy everyone who has ever wronged him.

Season finale, Friday, 10 p.m., HBO ● AMBER RAY

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Cracking into 'The Nutcracker'

- We asked a 5-year-old girl to help us review this holiday classic
- She said: 'The bear was a little scary ... [but] the magic was awesome!'

There's an old saying that if you want the truth, ask a child.

So that's exactly what we did. Bree Anderson, 5, made her first trip to a ballet for the opening weekend of Boston Ballet's "The Nutcracker." She gave Metro the rundown on the Christmas classic.

▶ Bree Anderson

If you go

Boston Ballet's 'The Nutcracker'
Through Dec. 31
The Opera House
539 Washington St., Boston
$40-$174, 617-695-6950
www.bostonballet.org

The party scene: The kids did a good job. I really like Clara. I wish I could dance onstage.

Drosselmeier (Pavel Gurevich): The magic was awesome — how did he make that boy disappear? The bear was a little scary.

Snow King and Queen (Kathleen Breen Combes and Sabi Varga) That was so pretty. The King must be so strong — I can pick up my brother, but not like that.

Snowflakes: The snow was cool. It was snowing inside! But the hot-air balloon that Clara and the Cavalier took? Oooooh!

The Kingdom of Sweets: Wow. The angels look like they are floating in the clouds.

Mother Ginger: Was she real? Does she wear that dress all the time?! It was so poofy.

The Russian Dance: They had really hard dance moves. I'd have to grow to be really tall, go to gymnastics and then jump up all the way up to see God and come back down.

Dew Drop (Misa Kuranaga): YAY! Bravo!

Sugar Plum Fairy (Erica Cornejo): Her costume was my favorite. She was twirling so fast!

Tchaikovsky's score: It was so pretty — I was humming along as the flowers danced.

KATRINA T. LALLIER
katrina.lallier@metro.us

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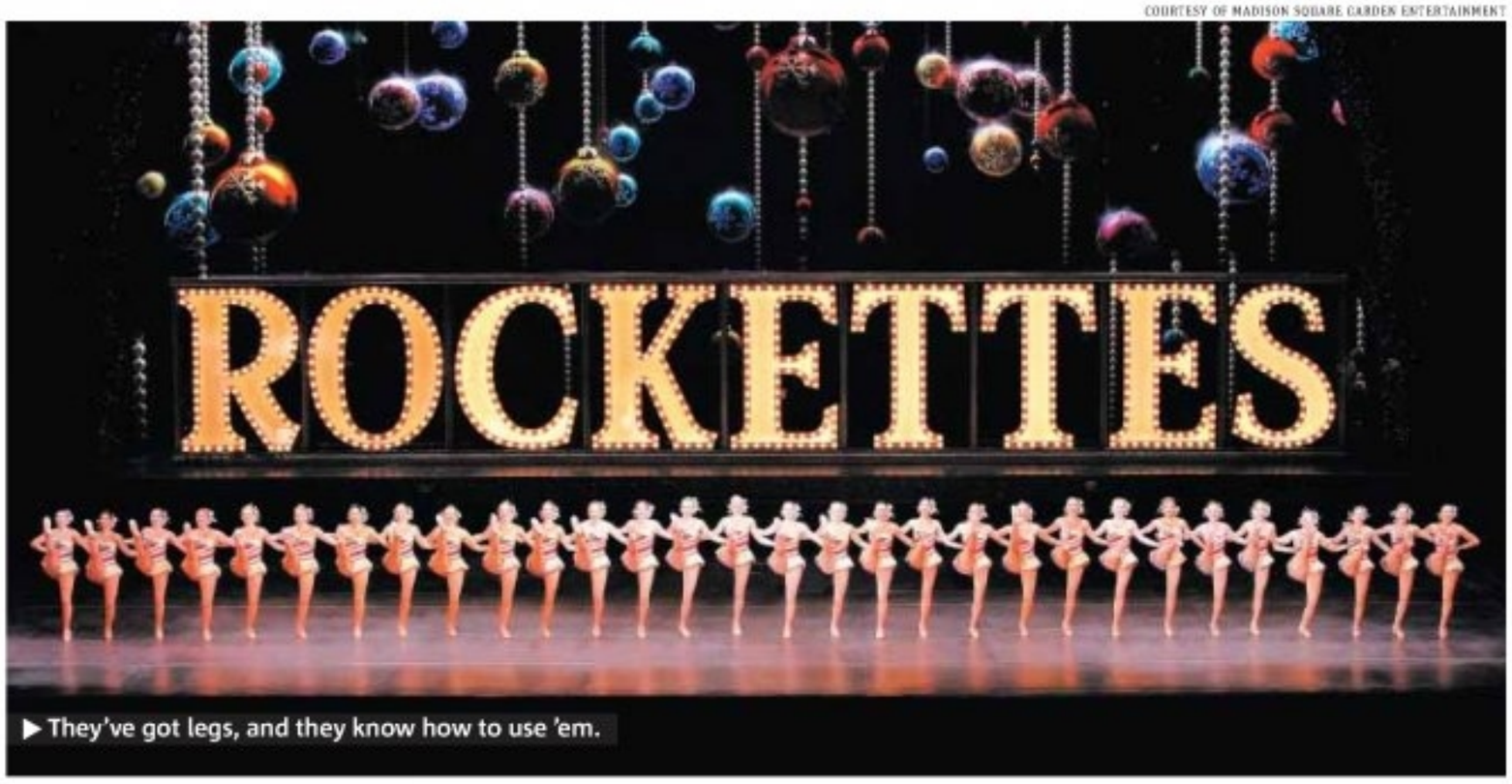
‘Christmas Spectacular’ really is spectacular

The Rockettes rock in this holiday classic If you don’t get a kick out of them, you might be the Grinch

COURTESY OF MADISON SQUARE GARDEN ENTERTAINMENT



▶ They’ve got legs, and they know how to use ’em.

If you’re not feeling the holiday magic filling the air of the Wang Theatre during the “Radio City Christmas Spectacular,” take a look around you. The joy etched on the faces of the children (and adults) beholding the spectacle is itself worth the price of admission.

Theater snobs may snarl about the prerecorded music, toss caustic quips about the show’s cheese factor and bemoan the fact that it hasn’t changed in nearly 80 years. But for the rest of us, this is pure holiday fun.

What’s not to love about 18 leggy Rockettes executing “Parade of the Wooden Soldiers” with impeccable precision? How can you not love their teddy bear “Nutcracker”? And “The Living Nativity,” with its camels, sheep and spectacular costumes always elicits oohs and aahs aplenty.

They’ve somehow managed to get the double-decker bus from Radio City to Boston where the Rockettes, with the help of a giant LED screen, take the audience on a dizzying bus ride through midtown Manhattan. The screen comes in handy during “Magic Is There,” a new number that uses both technology and aerials to deliver a lesson in believing in holiday magic.

If you’re still not feeling the spirit, a brief video montage celebrating the show’s history should help. If that and a big Swarovski crystal-sparkling finish don’t make you feel the magic, expect some coal in your stocking.

If you go

‘Radio City Christmas Spectacular’
Through Dec. 28
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont Street, Boston
$25-$85, 866-348-9738
www.citicenter.org

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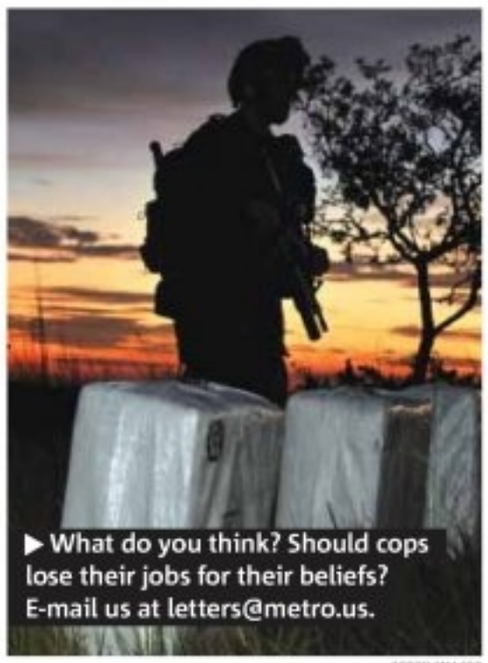
NO DISCOURSE IN DRUG WAR?

The Week That Was: Opinion

It doesn't take a brain amped up on crystal meth to deduce that the main contributions of the U.S. War On Drugs have been a costly rise in domestic incarcerations and the economic encouragement of violent killers south of the border. So it's disturbing to learn — through reports in the New York Times, among others — that multiple police officers have been fired in the past few years for the crime of expressing their sincere beliefs on drug reform.

Take Bryan Gonzalez, a former Border Patrol Agent who was sacked after lamenting to a fellow officer that legalization would save lives in Mexican cartel war zones like Ciudad Juarez. Or former probation officer Joe Miller, who was sent packing after signing his name to a letter in support of LEAP — Law Enforcement Against Prohibition. Or Jonathon Wender, who won an $815,000 settlement for unfair dismissal following similar sentiments. And there are more.



▶ What do you think? Should cops lose their jobs for their beliefs? E-mail us at letters@metro.us.

GETTY IMAGES

Whether or not you agree that prohibition puts power into the hands of drug cartels (allowing them, for instance, to use their billion-dollar monopoly to infiltrate the Mexican police force), it seems poorly conceived to hamper the deductive processes of our boys in blue — trusted to employ their thinking abilities in evaluation of the exercise of lethal force.

In the '20s, prohibition of alcohol created the market conditions that led to organized crime. In the past decade, the same market forces have led to an estimated 40,000 murders in Mexico alone. Discussing such should not be a career-ender.

BRAYDEN SIMMS
brayden.simms@metro.us

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Please send 100-word submissions to letters@metro.us.

Horoscope

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Effective allies can sometimes be difficult to find; so when dealing with matters of extreme importance, it might be best to rely on your own assets.
♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Many are able to be led, even if they won't be driven or pushed into submission. So if you need to get certain people working on your team, keep this in mind.
♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Taking a big risk might be okay when you know the odds are tilted in your favor — but when things are not that certain, it would be far better to avoid taking chances.
♓ Pisces Feb. **20-March 20.** If you take the position that you are absolutely right and your mate is totally wrong, all you'll do is prolong the argument. Regardless of what you think, it is best to give an inch.
♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** If you're given some unfamiliar tools to work with, find somebody who is experienced in using them to teach you and follow their instructions.
♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** A lack of discipline could quickly sow the seeds for spender's remorse. You had better get a handle on your funds right off the bat or risk being broke by day's end.
♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** In situations where it's okay to be a bit assertive, you should take care not to go overboard and become pushy. To protect yourself, use charm (not force) to get what you want.
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** When you dig in, it can be difficult for you to forgive and forget. And when this happens it usually works against you. Let go and get on your life.
♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** You won't have any problems being generous with others of your own volition. However, if someone requests it of you, you're not likely to be too magnanimous in your treatment.
♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Manipulative moves could jeopardize your relationships with others, so try to enjoy friends for what they are instead of what they have to offer. That would only work against you.
♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** It is never a good day to discuss politics or religion with somebody who feels as strongly about his or her views and opinions as you do. All it would do is send sparks flying.
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** When it comes to involving yourself with someone in a close endeavor, make sure it is a person who is as honest and aboveboard as you. If you suspect the other party of being devious, back off. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

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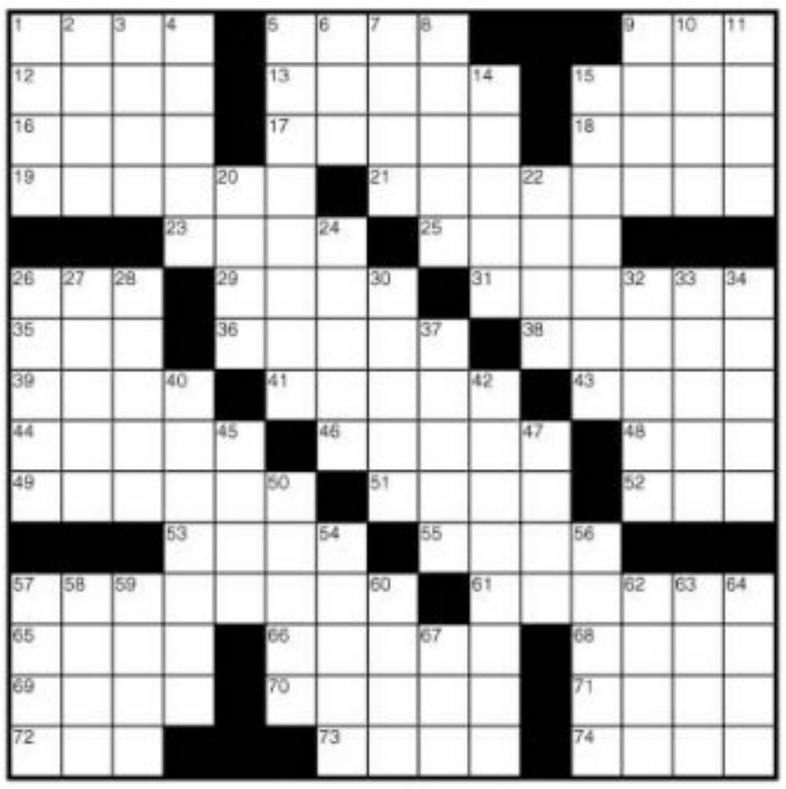
Across
1 Not phony
5 "The Little Sparrow"
9 Hangar occupant
12 Cut some slack
13 Drove at Daytona
15 Ankle-length
16 Wee hours in Cannes
17 ATM key
18 With, to Maurice
19 Sturdy shoe
21 Pancake
23 "Hud" Oscar-winner
25 King's address
26 Dracula, at times
29 Wild guess
31 Had a snack
35 Bonfire residue
36 Doctrine
38 Archaeology find
39 Hwys.
41 Avoid, as an issue
43 Bellow
44 Hunter constellation
46 Over
48 Rock's __ Leppard
49 Martial-arts star
51 Jane Austen title
52 Former JFK arrival
53 Political coalition
55 __ colada (rum drink)
57 Polaris
61 Bowser's ID (2 wds.)
65 Tooth anchor
66 Fountain in Rome
68 "Cope Book" aunt
69 Heavy burden
70 Shuttle course
71 Pseudonyms, for short
72 Find fault
73 Catch sight of
74 Perched on

Down
1 Gambler's town
2 __ de vie (brandies)
3 Oh, sure!(2 wds.)
4 Pretend(2 wds.)
5 Happens before
6 John, in Glasgow
7 Feigns
8 Has an intuition
9 Coffee or island
10 Board mem.
11 Woods insect
14 Sink necessity
15 Grandeur
20 Take a load off
22 Big leaguers
24 Sri __
26 Industrial czar
27 Kind of turf
28 His and hers
30 Neutral color
32 Takes advice
33 Cherbourg shes
34 Blue pottery of Holland
37 Hike
40 Frozen desserts
42 Bashfulness
45 Swedish name
47 Prefix for second
50 __ voce
54 Novelist John Le __
56 Booster rocket
57 Mr. Hubbard
58 Chaplin's wife
59 Flutie or Henning
60 Yanks' adversaries
62 Medium pace
63 BBs
64 Huff and puff
67 Kind of treatment



	7			9		2		
	4	2	6					
	3				4	6		
4			9	1		3		
8			2		6			7
		1		4	3			9
		5	4				6	
					1	7	8	
		6		7			9	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

	7	2		5				4
1		5			7	3	9	
		3	2					
2					3		8	
			1		6			
	5		7					3
					2	6		
	3	9	8			2		1
4				3		8	7	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to Thursday's crossword

D	E	A	N		R	O	B	I	N		B	R	U	T
A	R	I	A		F	R	O	D	O		V	A	S	E
L	I	D	S		D	E	T	E	R		I	V	E	S
Y	E	A	S	T			H	A	M	S	T	E	R	S
			A	R	A	B		L	A	M	A			
B	E	G	U	I	L	E	D		O	M	A	H	A	
A	X	L		P	E	A	R	L		G	I	B	E	D
T	I	E	R		C	R	E	E	L		N	A	R	D
C	L	A	I	R		D	A	V	I	T		T	O	E
H	E	N	C	E			M	I	S	S	P	E	N	D
		E	N	C	L		S	A	K	I				
F	R	I	C	T	I	O	N		S	C	A	L	E	
A	U	R	A		G	R	E	B	E		K	N	O	T
I	S	A	K		A	R	E	C	A		E	T	A	T
L	E	S	E		R	Y	D	E	R		T	I	N	A

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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3

Avoiding reactionary bets

The average, or "square," bettor almost always bets favorites. They lay the points simply because they know X team is better than Y team. Usually, that creates value in the underdog.

But what about in the rare instance when the public actually leans heavily toward the dog? Of the 14 NFL games on the board this Sunday, just one game fits the bill: Giants at Cowboys. Dallas is a 3 1/2 point favorite, but 72 percent of bettors on Covers.com are taking New York.

This should be a red flag. Why would the public be on the dog here? It likely has to do with Dallas' loss in Arizona. Square bettors were burned by the Cowboys as a road favorite.

That's old-fashioned reactionary, week-to-week betting — something we should always be trying to avoid. ADAM LEVITAN

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PICKS, TRICKS AND MORE

Patriots expect to Skin Washington

New England blew out Redskins, 52-7, last time they met ◗ Brady, offense should have field day ◗ Team trying to learn from Jets' example

It's been four years since the Patriots and Redskins met, but it's safe to say the Redskins aren't mad about it.

The last meeting — in 2007 at Gillette Stadium — was nothing short of a massacre, as the Patriots stomped all over the Skins, 52-7. And the Skins actually made the playoffs that year, too.

Four seasons later, the Patriots are still a top team in the NFL, while the Redskins haven't touched the postseason since. And certainly won't this year.

After jumping out to a 3-1 start to the year, the Skins lost six straight. A win over the Seahawks would snap the streak, but then it was back to no good after last week's 34-19 loss to the Jets.

That loss to a division opponent of the Patriots — a team they know very well — —will help the team (as if they need it) prepare this week.

"We know the Jets and so we see how they match up against their players," Bill Belichick said Wednesday. "That will be better than them playing, like the week before when they played Seattle, who we don't really know anybody on Seattle and we're not familiar with Seattle. But I think you can see, like when they play the Jets, 'Okay, this is what they're doing.' We see how they're trying to attack the Jets because we know the Jets. I do think there's some value in that."

ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Tom Brady threw for 306 yards with five TDs (two rushing) last time he played the Skins.

The only positive the Skins have going for them is that this game is played in D.C. The Patriots have won in every visiting team's stadium except the Redskins'.

But that should end on Sunday. Belichick has undoubtedly preached playing all 60 minutes after last week's fourth quarter against the Colts.

And if the Patriots do that, we'll reminisce about a similar beat down again four years from now.

JIMMY TOSCANO
sports@metro.us

On the air Sunday
Giants at Cowboys 8:20 p.m. (NBC)

In the AFC

STANDINGS

EAST	
PATRIOTS	9-3
JETS	7-5
BILLS	5-7
DOLPHINS	4-8
NORTH	
RAVENS	9-3
STEELERS	9-3*
BENGALS	7-5
BROWNS	4-8*
SOUTH	
TEXANS	9-3
TITANS	7-5
JAGUARS	3-9
COLTS	0-12
WEST	
BRONCOS	7-5
RAIDERS	7-5
CHIEFS	5-7
CHARGERS	5-7

In the NFC

STANDINGS

EAST	
COWBOYS	7-5
GIANTS	6-6
EAGLES	4-8
REDSKINS	4-8
NORTH	
PACKERS	12-0
BEARS	7-5
LIONS	7-5
VIKINGS	2-10
SOUTH	
SAINTS	9-3
FALCONS	7-5
PANTHERS	4-8
BUCCANEERS	4-8
WEST	
49ERS	10-2
SEAHAWKS	5-7
CARDINALS	5-7
RAMS	2-10

*DOESN'T INCLUDE THURSDAY'S GAME

The cold, hard football facts

A look at this weekend's NFL action through the eyes of the football stat experts at Coldhardfootballfacts.com.

Passing records falling on 'D' too

Star quarterbacks Tom Brady, Drew Brees and Aaron Rodgers have a chance to break Dan Marino's single-season record of 5,084 passing yards set in 1984. Conversely, the defenses from Super Bowl contenders New England (9-3) and Green Bay (12-0) are on pace to give up more passing yards than any other team in football history. Here's a look at what the five worst pass defenses in history may look like at the end of the season:

- **2011 Patriots** 5,192 passing yards*
- **2011 Packers** 4,907 passing yards*
- **1995 Falcons** 4,751 passing yards
- **2005 49ers** 4,620 passing yards
- **1986 Jets** 4,567 passing yards

(*projected)

FFchamps.com's 'Start and Sit'

Start him
SEA RB Marshawn Lynch
Lynch may not be the Six-Million Dollar Man, but he is still running like he is bionic. He's averaged 118 rushing yards over his last five contests, and the Rams' 32nd-ranked run defense won't put up much of a roadblock.

Sit him
ARZ RB Beanie Wells
After his 228-yard rushing performance in Week 12 against the lowly Rams, Wells was held to a mere 67 yards on 20 totes last weekend. Now he faces the 49ers' No. 1 run defense.

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Welcome to Hollywood

Angels snag baseball's biggest prize Ink Pujols to reported $254 million deal Team also adds Wilson

How's this for a Hollywood ending?

The L.A. Angels shocked the baseball world Thursday by signing Albert Pujols to the second-richest contract in major-league history. The three-time NL MVP agreed to a reported 10-year, $254 million contract, which is subject to a physical with the club.

"It's a very exciting day for the Angels community and Southern California as a whole, and we're very excited about what this can do for our future," Angels owner Arte Moreno said.

Pujols, 31, was being courted by the Miami Marlins and the only team he's ever played for, the St. Louis Cardinals, but ultimately chose to switch to the American League. Pujols, the marquee player of the 2011 free-agent class, has a career .328 average with 445 home runs in 11 major league seasons. He hit .299 with 37 homers last season, while leading the Cardinals to the World Series championship.

The Angels also agreed to terms with starting pitcher C.J. Wilson on a reported five-year, $77.5 million deal. Wilson went 16-7 with a career-low 2.94 ERA and 206 strikeouts last season for the Texas Rangers.

METRO

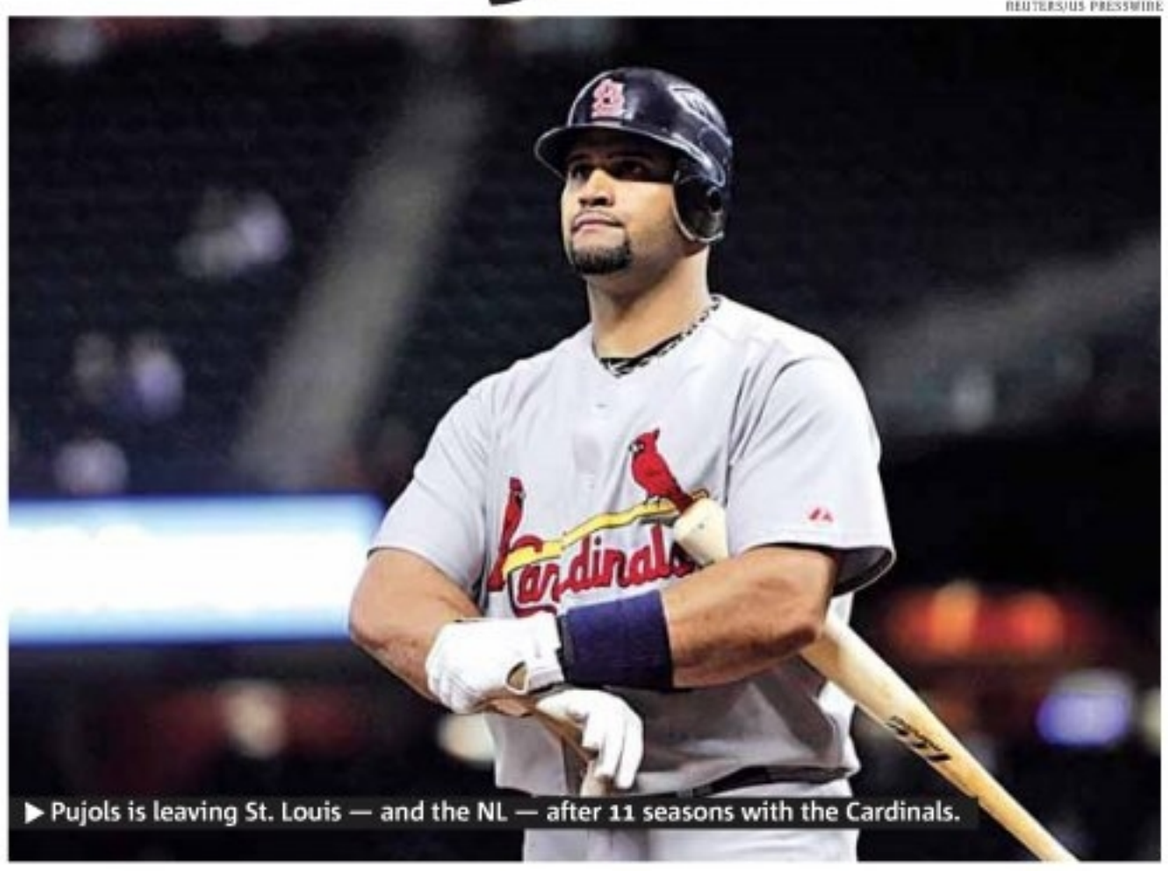
Fair trade

Pujols' contract includes a full no-trade clause, which may have been the sticking point in his negotiations with the Marlins, according to ESPN.com.

$184

Million dollars that Arte Moreno paid for the Angels in 2003. Pujols is reportedly due $254 million over the next 10 seasons.

REUTERS/US PRESSWIRE



▶ Pujols is leaving St. Louis — and the NL — after 11 seasons with the Cardinals.

It's official: Big Papi back with Red Sox

Ortiz accepts arbitration, two sides set to work on two-year contract Still no compensation for Epstein

As expected, David Ortiz officially accepted salary arbitration from the Sox.

Sox GM Ben Cherington addressed the media Thursday as the team wrapped up baseball's winter meetings in Dallas.

"We're happy about it," Cherington told reporters. "One of the best hitters in the American League back on the team, so it's a good outcome. We're happy about it, having him in the lineup."

The slugger is back in the fold on a one-year contract, but the two sides can work on a multiyear deal until February. If no deal is reached, Ortiz would be due at least $14 million in 2012. The 36-year-old reportedly wants a two-year contract worth around $25 million.

"There will be a lot more talks because we have to get through the arbitration process," Cherington said. "What the outcome of those are, I don't know."

With Ortiz back, the Sox are less likely to add another outfield bat.

"David's a huge bat in the lineup so I don't think we're in a position where we need to add a lot more offense," Cherington said.

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Ortiz

That's a wrap

Some other Sox-related highlights from the winter meetings, which ended Thursday in Dallas.

Determining Theo's value. The Sox and Cubs still haven't decided on the compensation for departed GM Theo Epstein. Since he had one year left on his contract, the Cubs must give the Sox something.

Yankees hate. New skipper Bobby Valentine wasted no time putting his stamp on the Red Sox-Yankees rivalry when he stopped a reporter and said, "I hate the Yankees."

No money for Albert. No surprise here, but GM Ben Cherington admitted that the Sox never made an attempt to get prized free agent Albert Pujols. "That would have had to be pretty creative to ignore where we are," he said.

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MAKE-A-WISH.

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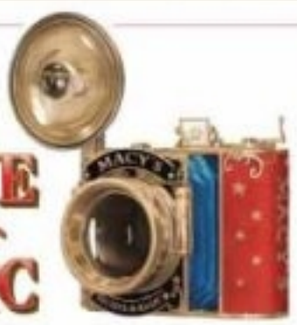

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